



4 DAYS/3 NIGHTS

ZAR 5300 FOR A COUPLE

THE VICTORIA GOLDFIELD

The first gold rush in Southern Africa occurred in Botswana.

Gold was discovered in the Tati River in 1868, and the gold rich area was quickly named the 'Victoria Goldfield'. The rush drew miners from all over the world. As it happened the alluvial gold came from a very local source and there wasn't much of it. The most successful were parties from Australia and New Zealand, who had prior experience in hard rock mining.

The deepest shaft on the field was the 'New Zealand' mine, said to have reached a depth of 360 ft. For a few years there was a thriving settlement at Old Tati and the early 1870's even saw the first performance of a Shakespearean play in Botswana. But the boom came and went. Old Tati was abandoned completely in the 1890's in favour of Francistown and the much richer gold mines of the Monarch reefs.

Most memories of Old Tati and the Victoria Goldfield live on in old diaries and sketches, some of which can be seen in the Supa Ngwao Museum in Francistown. Gold has been mined in the vicinity until the present day, but the remains of Old Tati are largely undisturbed, and are gradually being reclaimed by the African bush.

There is no interpretive or directional signage at the Victoria Goldfield so our package provides the best self-guiding information available.

There is no accommodation available near the Victoria Goldfield, but a night in Francistown, with a night in Palapye on either side will provide an opportunity to spend one day exploring the goldfield; and the next exploring the mining history of Francistown.

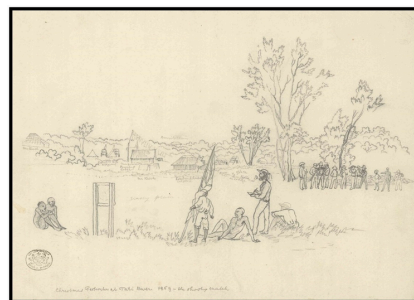
Accommodation in Francistown is at the Diggers Inn, a hotel decorated with a hint of the old mining style of the town, and located in a street named after a 19th Century Australian goldminer

THE PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 3 nights accommodation
- Detailed notes on the Victoria Goldfield
- Detailed notes on Sam Edwards, the governor of the Tati District and longest resident of Old Tati
- Guidenotes on historical sites in Francistown

THE PACKAGE EXCLUDES:

- Cross border fees for your car



CONTACT US

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