



7 Day Botswana Safari & House Boat 2020



In Africa Tours

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Boteti River - Makgadikgadi Pans National Park - Okavango Delta - Chobe River Front

7 Days / 6 Nights

2 Persons

Reference: 7 Day Botswana Safari & House Boat 2020

Date of Issue: 09 December 2019



[Click here to view your Digital Itinerary](#)

Introduction

This 7 Day Botswana safari encompasses the rich diversity of northern Botswana's Makgadikgadi National Park, with the enchanting wilderness that is the Okavango Delta, and then ends on the Chobe River on a luxury houseboat. This safari gives you the opportunity of seeing abundant wildlife, excellent birding and experiencing a breath taking wilderness feel!

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
Leroo La Tau	Boteti River - Makgadikgadi Pans National Park	FI	2 Nights
Camp Okavango	Okavango Delta	FI	2 Nights
Chobe Princesses		FI	2 Nights

Key

FI: Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities

Price

01 Jan - 29 Feb 2020:

USD 5 775 .00 + ZAR 20 315 .00 per person sharing (x2 Adults)

01 Mar - 31 Mar 2020:

USD 5 775 .00 + ZAR 24 385 .00 per person sharing (x2 Adults)

01 Apr - 30 June & 01 - 30 Nov 2020:

USD 7 115 .00 + ZAR 24 385 .00 per person sharing (x2 Adults)

01 Jul - 31 Oct 2020:

USD 8 985 .00 + ZAR 24 385 .00 per person sharing (x2 Adults)

01 - 31 Dec 2020:

USD 5 775 .00 + ZAR 21 255 .00 per person sharing (x2 Adults)

PLEASE NOTE:

Camp Okavango are CLOSED 01 Feb - 29 Feb 2020 &

Leroo La Tau are CLOSED from 15 January - 29 February 2020

Included

04 Night's accommodation on a fully inclusive basis including scheduled activities & laundry service, all meals, refreshments, local spirits & wines (excluding premium brands), national park fees, Airport Departure Tax and all government levies, taxes & 12% Value added Tax (Leroo La Tau & Camp Okavango)

02 Night's accommodation on a fully inclusive basis including all meals, soft drinks, mineral water, coffee, tea, and local beer & wine, water-based game viewing and bird watching on tender boats, a land-based cultural tour of a local village, tiger & bream fishing in season (tiger fishing is strictly catch and release), road transfers to and from Kasane Airport and Kasane Immigration Office located on the Botswana side of the Chobe river, boat transfers between Kasane Immigration Office in Botswana and Namibia Immigration Office

Departure taxes (Maun, Okavango Delta, Mkgadikgadi)

All road transfers as per itinerary

Light aircraft charters as per itinerary (Maun – Leroo La Tau – Camp Okavango - Kasane)

Flights:

Johannesburg – Maun one way, incl. taxes (Economy class)

Kasane - Johannesburg one way, incl. taxes (Economy class)

Airport tax subject to change

Excluded

Accommodation not specified

Flights not specified

Meals and beverages not specified

Additional tours / transfers / activities / entrances

Park fees not specified

Taxes not specified

Items of a personal nature

Visa's if required

Telephone calls

Gratuities

Laundry not specified

Day 1: Leroo La Tau, Boteti River - Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

Boteti River - Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

On the western boundary of the renowned Makgadikgadi Pans National Park lies the Boteti River. Owing to the arid nature of the park, the river and the nutrient-rich western grasslands supply the essential water and sustenance for the wildlife that inhabit the region. The Makgadikgadi Pans National Park is home to the second largest zebra migration in the world, where thousands of zebra migrate to the Boteti River in the dry winter months (May to Oct) from their summer grazing ground further inside the park. The fascinating contrast between the Boteti River and arid national park makes it a fascinating region to include in any Botswana safari.

Day Itinerary

Today you will board your flight from Johannesburg's OR Tambo International Airport to the Maun Airport in Botswana. On arrival you will be met and transferred by light aircraft to the Makgadikgadi. On arrival you will be transferred by road to **Leroo La Tau Safari Lodge**, where you will spend the next (2) night's on a fully inclusive basis. Included in your stay are: Accommodation, scheduled activities & laundry service, all meals, refreshments, local spirits & wines (excluding premium brands), national park fees, Airport Departure Tax and all government levies, taxes & 12% Value added Tax.

Overnight: Leroo La Tau [View iBrochure](#)

Leroo La Tau rises majestically above the Boteti River which stretches across the western border of the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park.

The park, populated by up to 30,000 zebra and wildebeest closely accompanied by predators, offers guests the chance to experience the exhilaration of seeing large concentrations of game and the resultant predator interaction. The lodge offers a raised hide above the river where guests can enjoy the spectacular wildlife sightings that we've come to expect in this part of Botswana.

With just 12 thatched luxury chalets all overlooking the magnificent Makgadikgadi Pans National Park, each with en-suite bathrooms. There is a dining room, reading room and bar in the main lodge, expansive wooden decks and a plunge pool, where guests can immerse themselves seamlessly into the ultimate wildlife experience in Botswana.

Having explored the area and enjoyed a spectacular wildlife phenomenon on guided day and night game drives, guests can retire after dinner to a splendid fireplace overlooking the river.



Basis

Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities

All Drinks (excl Premium Brands) Included

Day 2: Leroo La Tau, Boteti River - Makgadikgadi Pans National Park**Day Itinerary****ACTIVITIES & WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS**

The lodge offers guided game drives in the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park focusing on the exceptional wildlife sightings along the Boteti River. Depending on the water level, boat activities are also provided. Optional cultural excursions can be arranged to Khumaga Village as well as day trips to Nxai pan and Baines Baobabs (three night stay only).

Leroo La Tau translates as 'lion's paw' but, although the surrounding area features abundant Lion, Zebra and Wildebeest, it also boasts Chobe Bushbuck, Leopard, Cheetah, Brown and Spotted Hyena, Impala, Kudu, Jackal, Porcupine, Genet and Caracal, to name but a few.

Please note: Owing to their remote location within the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park, the Makgadikgadi Pans themselves are not visited on daily scheduled activities from Leroo La Tau.

Makgadikgadi

Okavango Expeditions offers both SERVICED mobile tented safaris or PARTICIPATION mobile safaris to suit all interests and budgets.

Basis

Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities

All Drinks (excl Premium Brands) Included

Day 3: Camp Okavango, Okavango Delta**Okavango Delta**

Situated in the northwestern corner of Botswana, the Okavango Delta is a World Heritage Site as it is the largest inland delta in the world. The magnificent Okavango River sprawls out over the dry sands of the Kalahari Desert forming this flourishing waterlogged oasis featuring countless meandering waterways and crystal clear lagoons studded with water lilies, as well as fertile floodplains and reeded islands inhabited with abundant wildlife. The Okavango Delta stretches over 15000 square kilometres. Visitors can enjoy a number of wonderful activities such as game viewing, fishing, bird watching or taking an authentic guided Mokoro excursion through this wetland paradise in a traditional dugout canoe. Commonly spotted animals include: lion, rhino, leopard, giraffe, hippos, elephants, crocodiles and countless species of bird.

Day Itinerary

This morning after an early game viewing activity and breakfast, you will be transferred by light aircraft to the Okavango Delta, where you will check in at the **Camp Okavango**, spending the next (2) nights on a fully inclusive basis. Included in your stay are: Accommodation, scheduled activities & laundry service, all meals, refreshments,

local spirits & wines (excluding premium brands), national park fees, Airport Departure Tax and all government levies, taxes & 12% Value added Tax.

Overnight: Camp Okavango [View iBrochure](#)

Camp Okavango, a unique and exclusive African safari camp is situated on the remote Nxaragha Island. This hidden treasure, in the heart of the permanent Okavango Delta, assures its guests of an unparalleled year-round water wilderness experience.

Camp Okavango's main area comprises of a network of interconnected walkways linking up two lounge areas, a dining room, library, self-service bar and curio shop. Sweeping ramps lead to the lower level deck with two open-air fire pits and comfortable seating areas to relax and take in the natural surroundings. There is a third deck with a rim flow swimming pool and thatched lounge deck for those warm summer days.

With its open air design and elevated position, the new Camp Okavango is an eco-sensitive lodge which captures the very essence of the Okavango Delta.

To ensure a peaceful and genuine safari experience, Camp Okavango accommodates just twenty-four guests. There are eleven intimate Safari suites and one Family suite consisting of two bedrooms and each with an en-suite bathroom. Each of the guest suites have been built on individual raised wooden platforms and set beneath the thick Okavango Delta vegetation. The en-suite bathrooms have double vanities, double shower and a separate water closet (with a view). The stack away sliding doors open onto a private open-air viewing deck offering beautiful views over the Okavango Delta.



Further Information: www.desertdelta.com/botswana-safari-lodges/camp-okavango-botswana.html

Basis

Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities

All Drinks (excl Premium Brands) Included

Day 4: Camp Okavango, Okavango Delta

Day Itinerary

ACTIVITIES & WILDLIFE

Water-based activities are conducted by experienced professional guides who will expertly navigate guests through the many meandering, reed-lined waterways. Roam the vast expanses of water from the comfort of a modern motorboat or explore the intricacies of the Okavango Delta the quiet old-fashioned way, in the traditional mokoro (dugout canoe).

For those wanting to get a little closer to nature, guided bush walks are conducted on a number of the nearby islands, offering an opportunity to track some of the larger land-based species that inhabit this water wilderness. Birding opportunities are outstanding and anglers may put their skill against bream and tiger fish. Camp Okavango is a water-based camp and game-drive activities, using safari vehicles, are not possible.

Okavango Delta

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Basis

Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities
All Drinks (excl Premium Brands) Included

Day 5: Chobe Princesses

Day Itinerary

This morning after an early game viewing activity and breakfast, you will be transferred to the airstrip, where you will board your light aircraft flight to Kasane Airport. On arrival you will be met and transferred by road to the Kasane Waterfront Immigration, where you will clear customs and board the **Chobe Princess Houseboat** by boat transfer. You will spend the next (2) nights aboard the house boat – which cruises its way through the Chobe waterways (the boat generally moves between the Kasai Channel as well as Kasika and Serondella within Chobe National Park). Your time on the house boat is on a fully inclusive basis. Included in your stay are: Accommodation, all meals, soft drinks, mineral water, coffee, tea, and local beer & wine, water-based game viewing and bird watching on tender boats, a land-based cultural tour of a local village, tiger & bream fishing in season (tiger fishing is strictly catch and release), road transfers to and from Kasane Airport and Kasane Immigration Office located on the Botswana side of the Chobe river, boat transfers between Kasane Immigration Office in Botswana and Namibia Immigration Office.

Once all our guests have boarded in the late afternoon, and if the weather permits, we'll go in search of some big game. This is the perfect time of day to make the most of that golden glow of the African sunset by getting some iconic shots of the animals as they gravitate towards the river before night falls.

After the sunset cruise return back on board and freshen up before meeting your Captain on the upper deck. After a safety briefing, you'll make your way to the dining room where you'll be served a delicious three-course plated dinner along with an excellent choice of wines. Finish off with a hot drink or nightcap at the bar before retiring to the night sounds of Africa in the distance.

Overnight: Chobe Princesses [View iBrochure](#)

A RELAXED, INTIMATE RIVER SAFARI EXPERIENCE

With only a small number of guests per boat staying in one of the three Chobe Princesses is like being on your very own houseboat. The entire boat can also be booked exclusively, giving you your very own private villa on the water. As you drift down the Chobe River and spot incredible wildlife scenes, you'll be able to completely relax in an intimate river safari experience.

Each houseboat has a minimum of three smaller boats for use on daily excursions that take your fancy: mark off over 450 bird species found in this wetland paradise, try your hand at landing a tiger fish, or capture Africa's unique beauty on a photographic safari. Whatever you choose to do, your day trips will be personal and flexible because you'll be sharing the tender boats with a small number of guests.

Each cabin on board the Chobe Princesses is tastefully decorated in a contemporary style, and each has its own private view onto the ever-changing landscapes beyond. On the upper entertainment deck, a spacious lounge and bar area encourages you to take time out while there's also a plunge pool that's perfect for a refreshing dip.



Basis

Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities

All Local Brands (excl Spirits) Included

Day 6: Chobe Princesses

Day Itinerary

We know that some guests like to watch the sunrise as they sip on their coffee while others like to take a more leisurely approach. That's why we let you choose your morning activities, depending on the type of holiday you're searching for. Perhaps you want to enjoy a water-based safari or a village tour on the Namibian side of the river? Or perhaps you'd prefer a spot of bird watching or fishing instead? Or for the more adventurous a walking tour to a 2000-year-old baobab tree? You may even decide to simply remain on board as the Chobe Princess houseboat glides its way along the banks of the Chobe River.

After your morning activities, enjoy lunch on board while using your unique vantage point to spot wild animals and drink in the expansive views. Join our guide in the afternoon for a water-based safari on a tender boat where you can get up close to an array of wildlife, including some of the 120 000 elephants for which the Chobe is well known. After a delicious dinner, settle down for a restful and tranquil night in your cabin

Pangolin Voyager Houseboat

There is simply nothing more relaxing than cruising down one of Africa's most iconic and game filled rivers and the Pangolin Voyager is the perfect vessel.

The Chobe river is the natural border between Namibia and Botswana and the Pangolin Voyager is actually based on the Namibian side of the river with the Chobe National Park as the opposite bank. The Chobe is unique in that it flows in both directions at different times of the year depending on the flood in the mighty Zambezi with which it converges a few kilometres further downstream.

The houseboat has five cabins which can be configured as double or twin beds. Each has an ensuite shower and toilet as well as air conditioning. Please be aware that the aircon is controlled centrally to cool the cabins throughout the day and night when you are most likely to be in your room but cannot run 24/7 as we predominantly rely on solar generated battery power.

Basis

Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities

All Local Brands (excl Spirits) Included

Day 7: End of Itinerary

Day Itinerary

Enjoy a morning cruise during breakfast as you do your last bit of animal spotting and take some memorable pictures. Bid our crew a reluctant farewell and then make your way via tender boat to the Namibian Immigration Office. Once you've had your documents stamped you'll be transferred via tender boat to the Kasane Immigration Office, where you'll have your documents stamped once again before entering Botswana. From here you will continue to Kasane Airport. Here you will board your outbound flight back to the OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg, South Africa. On arrival in Johannesburg, you will continue as per your own arrangements or board your late evening outbound flight back home. **(Flight at own arrangements)**

Transport

Flight Information

Date	Flight	Airline	Departure Airport	Time	Arrival Airport	Time	Class	Ref
	Scheduled		OR Tambo International Airport [JNB]		Maun Airport [MUB]			
	Charter Flight		Maun Airport [MUB]		Leroo La Tau			
	Charter Flight		Leroo La Tau		Camp Okavango			
	Charter Flight		Camp Okavango		Kasane Airport [BBK]			
	Scheduled		Kasane Airport [BBK]		OR Tambo International Airport [JNB]			

Transfers

Date	Company	Pick Up	Drop Off	Time	Vehicle
		Kasane Airport [BBK]	Pangolin Voyager Houseboat		Transfer
		Pangolin Voyager Houseboat	Kasane Airport [BBK]		Transfer

Travel Information



Situated in the southern reaches of Africa, Botswana is renowned for its pristine wilderness areas characterised by deep lagoons, wetlands, lush palms, rugged hills and desert plains scattered with scrubland. The country's primary tourist drawcard is undoubtedly the vast red expanse of the Kalahari Desert and its remarkably beautiful Okavango Delta, the largest inland delta in the world. These natural wonders provide a tranquil haven for an abundance of

African wildlife to thrive. Other highlights include the impressive Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, where visitors are privy to massive zebra migrations during the flood season; the Savuti plains, which host large prides of lions; and the Tsodilo Hills, where 4500 rock paintings form a unique record of human settlement over many millennia.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Botswana's currency is Pula (which means 'rain' in Setswana). It is divided into 100 thebe (which means 'shield' in Setswana). Travellers' cheques and foreign currency may be changed at banks, bureaux de change and authorised hotels.

The US dollar, Euros, British Pound and the South African Rand are the most easily convertible currencies (and accepted by some establishments - but, generally, then an inflated rate of exchange will be applied).

Banking

Seven main commercial banks, as well as a number of foreign exchange bureaux, operate in Botswana. Operating hours are Monday to Friday 08h30 to 15h30 and Saturday 08h30 to 10h45.

Full banking services are available in major towns, although ATMs are sprouting up all over the country. Most credit cards are accepted at hotels and restaurants. Cultural sites and community art and craft outlets usually only accept cash.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Public transport in Botswana is geared towards the needs of the local populace and is confined to main roads between major population centres. Although cheap and reliable, it is of little use to the traveller as most of Botswana's tourist attractions lie off the beaten track.

Driving off the main roads in Botswana is only recommended to experts in 4x4 vehicles, that are equipped correctly. Most lodges offer transfers or they can be arranged. If, however, you will be driving in Botswana: your home driving licence will be accepted (with an official English translation if necessary; driving is on the left side of the road; and the national speed limit is on tarred roads is 120km/h and 60km/h in towns and villages.

Be sure to watch out for wild animals on the roads!

There are major airports in Maun, Kasane and Gaborone, while smaller charter flights are used to get to the other top attractions and camps.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Tap water is considered safe to drink, although outside main cities and towns, visitors are advised to check first and sterilise water if in any doubt. Bottled water is available in most tourist centres. Filtered water is available at most camps and shops offer bottled water - it is advised to be well stocked of bottled water if you are travelling off the beaten track. Milk is pasteurised, and dairy products, local meat, poultry, seafood, fruit and vegetables are generally safe.

Safari lodges and camps serve international-style cuisine, generally of an extremely high standard, along with local beer and imported wine and spirits. Good restaurants and bars can be found in main towns, often within hotels. Beef and goat are very popular meats. Elsewhere, food is more basic: millet and sorghum porridge are the local staples.

A discretionary 5 to 10% tip is typical for restaurant bills. In many places, a service charge is automatically added. It is customary to tip the game guide and lodge staff while on safari.

Climate and Weather

Botswana's climatic pattern is typical of southern Africa, although its rainfall is less than countries further east. The rains in Botswana come mostly between December and March, when average minimum temperatures are in the low 20°s. Some days will be bright and sunny, some will have afternoon thunderstorms, and some will just be grey.

As with Namibia, April and May in Botswana are generally lovely, with the sky clear and the landscape green. Night temperatures start to drop during these months, especially in the Kalahari. Note that places in and around the Okavango tend to have less extreme, more moderate temperatures than the drier areas of the Kalahari.

From June to August the night-time temperatures in drier areas can be close to freezing, but it warms up rapidly during the day, when the sky is usually clear and blue. It's now very much 'peak season' for most safari areas: the land is dry in most areas so the animals congregate around the few available water sources.

This continues into September and October, when temperatures climb again, drying the landscapes and concentrating the game even more. This is the best time for big game safaris – although October can feel very hot, with maximum temperatures sometimes approaching 40°C.

November is difficult to predict, as it can sometimes be a continuation of October's heat, whilst sometimes it's cooled by the first rains; it's always an interesting month.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

In summer, lightweight, lightcoloured cottons are preferable. Avoid synthetic materials and black clothing, as they increase perspiration and discomfort. In winter, wear trousers, longsleeved shirts / blouses and jerseys. From May – August, night temperatures can fall below zero degrees celsius, so warm jerseys and jackets are vital, especially on morning and evening game drives. Garments of neutral colours that blend with the bush and forest are advisable for safaris and game viewing. Bring a lightweight jacket and/or jersey for unexpected temperature changes or rain. Closed, comfortable walking shoes or gym shoes are a must in all seasons. Special attention should be given to protection from the sun. Bring a sunhat, good quality sunscreen, sun lotion and polarised sunglasses. Wide brimmed sun hats are essential.

Electricity and Plug Standards

Electrical sockets (outlets) in Botswana are the "Type M " South African SABS1661 ("Large" 15 amp BS-546) sockets. This is actually an old British standard. The "Type M " South African plug and socket is not to be confused with the "Type D " Indian plug and socket. In pictures, they look very similar, but the South African type is much larger than the Indian type, and they are physically incompatible. If your appliance's plug doesn't match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in. Travel plug adapters simply change the shape of your appliance's plug to match whatever type of socket you need to plug into.

Electrical sockets (outlets) in Botswana usually supply electricity at between 220 and 240 volts AC. If you're plugging in an appliance that was built for 220-240 volt electrical input, or an appliance that is compatible with multiple voltages, then an adapter is all you need.

But travel plug adapters *do not change the voltage*, so the electricity coming through the adapter will still be the same 220-240 volts the socket is supplying. If you need to use appliances that are not compatible with 220-240 volt electrical input, you will need a voltage converter.

