



Bushlore

Self-drive Safaris **AFRICA**

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Best of Botswana Safari

Introduction:

The safari concentrates in the Northern Botswana region which is ideal 4x4 over-lander country, the area consists of some of the best and wildest game reserves in Africa. Seeing the vastness and unspoilt beauty of the wild areas in Botswana is a truly humbling and memorable experience. Although the trails certainly require 4x4 vehicles, prior 4x4 driver experience is not essential and either a briefing prior to departure or guidance will be provided on route.



Guided - The guide is experienced in over-lander travel, and is well acquainted with Botswana. Guides are well qualified and have good knowledge and skills regarding wildlife, tracking, birding, ecology, group management and culture

General - Meals and Accommodation:

Three meals are served per day and all catering duties will be handled by our guide/team with the exception of 2 dinners in lodge restaurants. These are not included in the standard safari price. The safaris are semi participational so you will be required to assist with some camp duties. Accommodation will be in rustic tents or roof tents with the exception of the first and last night, which will be in comfortable chalets or lodge tents. Bedding in the form of sheets, sleeping bags and pillows is supplied with the vehicles along with all the other necessary camp equipment. The full menu can be forwarded to you prior to leaving. Dietary restrictions, where applicable, will also be required.

Types of Safaris

Guided Safari: Fully inclusive safari, guide shares and drives Bushlore 4X4 vehicle

Guided Self Drive: Fully inclusive safari, guide in lead vehicle, you follow in a Bushlore 4X4 vehicle

Self Drive: Travel in your own Bushlore 4X4 vehicle, no guide, self catering



prepared for adventure!

Best of Botswana Safari Proposed Itinerary



Guaranteed Departure Dates:

July 2008 - sold out
August 2008 - sold out
September 2008 - sold out
October 2008 - 19/10/08
November 2008 - 08/11/08
December 2008 - 06/12/08
January 2009 - 10/01/09
February 2009 - 07/14/09
March 2009 - 07/03/09
April 2009 - 04/04/09
May 2009 - 16/05/09
June 2009 - 06/06/09
July 2009 - 04/07/09
August 2009 - 22/08/09
September 2009 - 12/09/09
October 2009 - 17/10/09
November 2009 - 01/11/09
December 2009 - 12/12/09

DAY 1 (20 - 250kms) - Waterberg Wilderness Reserve

You are met at the airport by the Bushlore guide/s and transferred to our offices where a discussion about the trip and introduction to the vehicle will take place over a cup of coffee or refreshments of your choice. We then move North towards Botswana and overnight in the Waterberg wilderness reserve about 2.5 hours from JHB. Lodge Accommodation is in luxury tents overlooking a gorge. A guided walk is included the following morning after which we have breakfast, freshen up and get on the road. Leopard research is conducted in the reserve and possible Leopard tracking and/or other activity is included



DAY 2 (450 KMS) - Khama Rhino

We cross into Botswana at the usually quiet border post of Martins Drift and make our way up to Khama Rhino sanctuary which will be about 3.5 hours from the Waterberg. This is a community-based project, which was set up to conserve the dwindling Rhino populations in Botswana. There is also good plains game in this area and a very good chance of Rhino. Accommodation: camping.



DAY 3 (400kms) - Makgadigadi Pans/Boteti River Area/Kubu

After an early morning game drive and English breakfast we continue North towards the Makgadigadi Pans. Depending on the rains in Botswana we will most likely aim for the Boteti river area where the third largest Zebra and Wildebeest migration in Africa takes place during the dry season. Good numbers of lion, Cheetah and Wilddog are present in this area and not far from the migration. Most other larger animal species also occur in this area although spotted Hyeana are rare and Buffalo do not occur. If however heavy late rains have fallen or when traveling in the wet season then we will concentrate on the Eastern side of the Makgadigadi reserve at a raised camp overlooking the plains, or opt to stay in the Central Kalahari depending on game options. Camping



Other Option: Central Kalahari



DAY 4 - Nxai Pan

70 kms North of our camp in the Makgadigadi lies the Nxai pans, which are host to large herds of plains game and an excellent area to see Lion and Cheetah. There is only one waterhole in many kilometers, which makes game viewing that much easier and very rewarding. If good rains have fallen in the pans earlier in the season, large herds of plains game also migrate to these areas.

Our statistics show that this is one of the best areas in Botswana and most of Southern Africa to view a lion kill. The waterhole is the ideal place for sundowners.

Other Option: Central Kalahari

DAY 5 (200kms) - Maun

We overnight in Maun which is a relaxing day/afternoon while the guide replenishes stocks you can spend the afternoon relaxing in camp or around the swimming pool. Laundry can also be done here as for the next week of safari, the facilities are limited. Accommodation - camping Dinner at restaurant for your own account.



DAY 6 - Moremi/Okavango Delta- 3rd Bridge

We move through towards the Moremi Game reserve, home to part of the world famous Okavango Delta, recognized as one of Africa's best natural wonders. This is certainly one of the highlights of the trip. The park is one of the most scenic, is rated in Africa's top 5 and has exceptional bird and animal life. That night we spend at third bridge campsite, the wildest of the camps in the Delta. Camping.



DAY 7 - Moremi, Xakanaxa

We remain within the Moremi game reserve, visiting some of the better attractions within the park and enjoying a game drive in the morning. That afternoon we drive through to Mboma boat station where we will take a boat trip into the channels of the Delta. The boat trip takes us along one of the larger channels in the Delta and offers us a more expansive view and better feel for this magnificent wilderness. The game viewing from the boat is usually good and we may be fortunate to see the shy Sitatunga antelope that lurk in the reed beds, large colonies of water birds and raptors are often seen. Camping and boat trip included.



DAY 8 - Kwhai River, Northgate

On returning from the boat trip we move across to the Northern area of Moremi, to the flood plains of the Kwhai river which offers for excellent game viewing and one of the most scenic areas of Moremi Game Reserve. We overnight at the Northgate campsite that is often shared with Spotted Hyeana and Baboons, neither of which pose any danger to a larger group or anyone who takes the necessary precautions. Camping



DAY 9 (180 kms) - Savuti - Chobe National Park

After another reasonably early start we move North out of Moremi and towards the Savuti area of Chobe National park.

The drive initially takes us along the Kwhai river which is one of the most scenic areas along the trip and excellent for game viewing. The Savuti camp is based along the Savuti channel that is now dry but still remains an area excellent for game and is well known for the high numbers of Lion and Hyeana. In recent years the lions in the area have developed into large prides and are very dominant over the Hyeana population. With many mouths to feed the lions in this area have now become famous for their adaption to killing elephants. Camping



DAY 10,11 (200 kms) - Chobe River Front (Ihaha and Chobe Safari Lodge)

In the wet season when the Mababe depression is at its best we spend an extra night in Savuti exploring the plains to the South East of the camp which attract thousands of Zebra and other plains game along with the many predators that follow in their wake. In the dry season we choose to head North to the Chobe river area where we spend 2 nights camping on the shores of the river. Game viewing is exceptional with huge herds of Buffalo being one of the bigger attractions.



DAY 12 (120kms) Victoria falls - Livingstone

We cross into Zambia on the ferry which negotiates the magnificent Zambesi river and head east to the famous Vic falls which are one of the biggest attractions in Africa and the largest falls on the continent. The area is tourist friendly with a number of cultural highlights and numerous places to overnight. There are a number of high adrenalin activities available from Vic falls that have almost become as well known as the falls themselves. Accomodation - camping



DAY 13 (380 KMS) Nata Lodge

We return to the Botswana side of the border and head South towards Nata Lodge. A comfortable stop over and an oasis in the surrounding scrub lands. The area is a bird sanctuary and at certain times of the year huge flocks of Flamingos congregate around the nearby pans. Camping

DAY 14 Tuli Lodge

After a good nights rest we move through to the Tuli block area of Botswana. The area is geographically different to anywhere else in Botswana, and has one of the higher Leopard and Elephant densities in Southern Africa. Guided game drive on open viewer included along with Wild Dog tracking project which is operating in the Tuli area. Accommodation: Lodge

DAY 15 (250km)

The next day sees us move back into South Africa and through to JHB.

Please Note:

The route can be changed slightly to include the alternative options mentioned on the itinerary. The guide may also recommend changing the route due to game movements, water shortages or road closures.

General Conditions:

- * The price for the guided self drive is for a minimum of 8 people. Where less people are booked the trip will depart and remain the same but the guide may join you in the vehicle. You are still able to drive.
- * Minimum age is 6 years old
- * Advanced booking is essential
- * We require a 25% booking deposit on guided self drives and a company order (corporates only) to confirm a booking and the balance to be paid prior to or at vehicle handover. On Self drives we require the standard 20% booking deposit.
- * Cancellations with less than 60 days notice would result in a loss of the full booking deposit.
- * Drivers will be required to have valid drivers license and be over the age of 24 years.
- * If vehicles are left in Vic Falls, only 12 days are paid for but a R4500-00 surcharge is applicable for the one way drop-off fee.

