

BOTSWANA PARKS & ISLAND 10 DAY - including meerkats



Day 1 & 12: Maun (Audi Camp or similar)



TRIP SUMMARY:

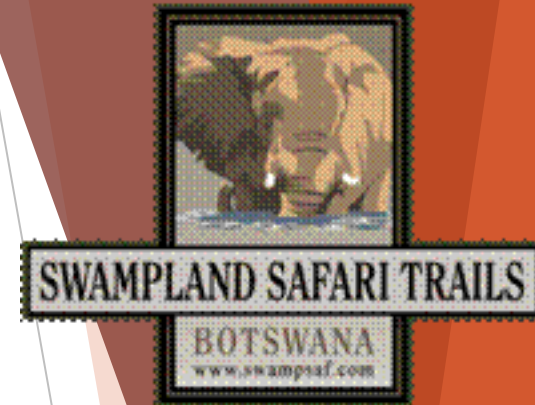
ACCOMMODATION:

- Day 1: Planet Baobab
- Day 2: Pans Camping - bedrolls
- Day 3: Moremi - Tented camp
- Day 4: Moremi - Tented camp
- Day 5: Moremi - Tented camp
- Day 6: Mboma Island camping - Tented camp
- Day 7: Mboma Island camping - Tented camp
- Day 8: Khwai Village - Tented camp
- Day 9: Khwai village - Tented camp
- Day 10: Maun -Thamalakane River Lodge
- Day 11: Depart



Day 1 & 2- Planet Baobab (Botswana)

A night under the Milky Way in Botswana



Day 1: On arrival at Maun airport, you will be transferred by road to Planet Baobab near Gweta for the night.

This is the Baobab Capital of the World, where the average age of each tree is more than 4000 years, and the boundless lunar landscape of the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans are the size of Switzerland. How's that for awe-inspiring?

This is a quirky place in a quirky part of the world, where we live cheek to tusk with old elephants; sleep in Afro-chic Bakalanga Huts; swim in the largest, coolest pool in the Kalahari; eat the finest pan-African cuisine, and of course, drink something cold with hunters and vagabonds, travellers and locals in the funkier bar in Africa. It's the coolest desert oasis around – and a part of Africa that few will experience, but all will remember.

Day 2: The sleep-out experience actually covers **much more than just the night under the stars**. After breakfast you will depart in a 4 x 4 safari vehicle. Halfway there, you will change from the vehicle to quad bikes for a more adventurous experience. The idea is to venture far out onto the pans where the horizon is completely flat and featureless - so flat in fact that you can see the curvature of the earth! During your pans adventure, the itinerary may also usually include interaction with a clan of habituated meerkats (not tame), which is a highlight of this excursion. This activity is exhilarating but safe!



Day 3, 4 & 5, MOREMI



Day 3 – After your night on the pan, you will be transferred back to Planet Baobab and then back to Maun, where you will board a charter flight to Moremi. At Moremi Airstrip you will be met by your Swampland professional guide to take you to your tented camp for the next 3 nights.

Moremi Game Reserve falls within the tribal land of the Batswana and is named after the late Chief Moremi III. It was clear to his wife, who reigned after his death that the game in their traditional hunting grounds was fast disappearing. With encouragement from conservationists, Mrs. Moremi proclaimed the Moremi Game Reserve in March 1963 and the tribe agreed to vacate the land.

Chief's Island is the largest landmass within Moremi and was the Batswana tribe's richest hunting grounds with a vast array of animals. The dry sandy interior of this 100,000 hectare (1,000 square kilometer) island is full of Mopane woodland and acacia thorn scrub interspersed with clay pans.

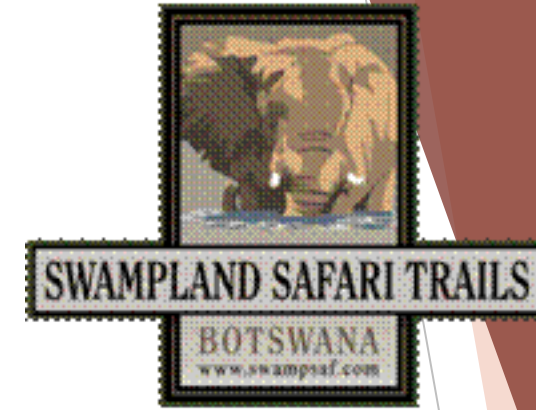
These pans fill with rain and attract large herds of buffalo who seem to prefer drinking from the pans rather than the river. They also like the sparse but sweet grasses found here, as opposed to the long but courser fodder of the floodplains. As the Mopane bush gives way to floodplains and riverine forests, other animals become abundantly visible and the whole spectrum of Africa's game can be seen.

MOREMI SPECIALITIES

- Exceptional game viewing
- Abundant birdlife
- Beautiful scenery
- Amazing nightlife experience



Day 6 & 7, ISLAND CAMPING



Day 6:

This morning after breakfast, you will be transported to Mboma boat station. You'll be boating through the channels of the Okavango Delta to an island where you'll spend the next 2 nights in dome tents.

The Okavango Delta in Botswana is one of the world's largest inland deltas. While most river deltas usually lead to an ocean, the Okavango River empties onto open land, flooding the savanna and creating a unique and ever-changing inland delta.

The delta swells almost three times in size between March and August. It fluctuates between 6,000 square kilometres to approximately 15,000.

The Okavango Delta is deemed one of the world's premier wilderness areas. Elephants, buffaloes, giraffes, hippos, antelope, leopards, hyenas, zebras and crocodiles are all examples of animals that you might see. During the dry season, around 260,000 mammals congregate around the delta.



Day 8 & 9- KHWAI VILLAGE

This morning after breakfast, the boats will take you back to Mboma boat station where you'll be met by your Swampland guide to transfer you to Khwai village, where you'll spend the next 3 nights/days. (approx. 5 hour drive) You'll enjoy a picnic on the way.

The Khwai River is situated on the Northern side of Botswana, near a village called the Khwai Village. This village started as a small San settlement and has developed and expanded over the past few years, proving to be an interesting cultural enclave in its own right. It is also the place where non-hunting Botswana safaris originated. The Khwai River can be viewed at the North Gate of the Moremi Game Reserve and has recently earned a strong reputation as being one of the best game areas in Botswana, offering spectacular wildlife viewing and photographic opportunities.

ANIMALS & BIRDS

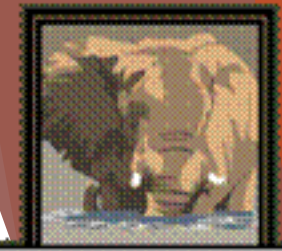
The lure of Khwai River and its extraordinary range of habitats provide the perfect environment for African animals to thrive and people to watch them. Great herd of antelopes, zebra, buffalo and elephants roam the pastures, and lions, leopards, cheetahs and all the other carnivores prosper. As Khwai River contains large areas of constant water, game viewing during the dry season is particularly good as animals are drawn to the permanent water sources. There are no fences between Khwai and the Okavango so the entire Okavango merges into a unified animal kingdom of grand proportions.

Each area has its own particular habitat, resident herds and familiar predators. Often revealed are secretive animals like porcupine, pangolin, aardwolf and genet.

Day 9 will be spent in the Khwai River Area, where a mokoro trip will be enjoyed. Traditional dug-out canoe or mokoro trips have over the years become a very popular way for travelers to experience the tranquility of the Okavango Delta.

It is not surprising that regardless of their budget, visitors wanting a real insight into the lives of the people of the Okavango, choose to do these trips. They are a good way to slip quietly into, and become part of, everyday life in this watery wonderland.

Day 11: After breakfast you will be transferred back to Maun where you'll spend the night at Thamalakane River Lodge (or similar). You will visit CT Diagnostics for your return Covid testing before departing the next day.



SWAMPLAND SAFARI TRAILS

BOTSWANA
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TRIP SUMMARY



ACCOMMODATION:

5 nights tented camp in Delux en-suite tents
2 nights island camping in Dome tents
2 nights chalets at Planet Baobab & Thamalakane River Lodge
1 night sleepout on the pans - bedrolls

QUOTATION INCLUDES:

Minimum number of participants
4 x 4 vehicles/mokoros/boats
All accommodation as stated in above itinerary
All necessary camping and kitchen equipment (when camping)
Personal extras such as towels - laundry
All meals
Mineral water, juice with meals
Alcoholic drinks (local brands)
Mokoro trip - Khwai
Boat transfers to island
Game drives
Park and entry fees
Quadbikes & Meerkat excursion

QUOTATION EXCLUDES:

All exported alcoholic drinks
Personal extras such as telephone calls
Optional extra excursions
International Flights
Holiday/Personal Insurance
Gratuities
Covid tests

