



PRIDE *of* AFRICA

9 Day Okavango Delta Experience in Botswana
Booking Code BOT 03



Experience the mystical wonders of the Okavango Delta. The Okavango Delta holds an incredible ninety-five percent of the country's total surface water in an inland Delta fed by the mighty Okavango River. Unlike every other major river on the planet, the Okavango never reaches the ocean but disappears in an endless web of lagoons and lush wetlands. The pristine landscape and diverse wildlife of this unique territory make it one of Africa's prime tourist destinations.

This Safari is for a minimum of four people sharing, valid all year round, and includes:

- Maun International Airport
- 4 nights in Moremi Game Reserve, Botswana
- 2 nights in Savute, Chobe National Park, Botswana
 - 2 nights in northern Chobe, Botswana
 - Kasane International Airport

Days 1 to 4: Xaxanaka & the Khwai River Area, Moremi Game Reserve



In 1962 the local BaTswana people set aside a third of the Okavango Delta to protect it for the future. They called this the Moremi Game Reserve and it encompasses a large area of the Delta's wetlands and the main dry peninsula that juts into



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the Delta, known as the Mopane Tongue. Moremi is lush and varied – a patchwork of lagoons, shallow flooded pans, plains and forests. It is one of Africa's finest areas for wildlife, with particularly high game densities

On Day 1 Pride of Africa Safaris will meet you on arrival at the International Airport of Maun. From Maun we will head for Xaxanaka Area, Moremi Game Reserve. We arrive in camp late afternoon with enough time to familiarise ourselves with the surroundings and the camp setup and settle into our tents. We will have an excellent dinner in camp, prepared by our ever-cheerful Bush Chef's and can continue to sit around a roaring camp-fire afterwards or retire to get a good night of sleep in a comfortable bed.

Xaxanaka

In the heart of Moremi, at the tip of the Mopane Tongue, lies Xaxanaka Lagoon. Here the Mopane forests meet a patchwork of deep waterways and shallow flooded areas. It's unforgettably beautiful and packed with game. Leopard and cheetah are regularly seen and the density of antelope is amazing. The area's birdlife is exceptionally varied, from innumerable herons, egrets, storks and other waders to many species of harriers, buzzards and kites.



In the mornings we will rise very early, greet the fresh African morning with coffee and biscuit, before heading out on a game drive. The early mornings offer an improved opportunity to view the predators. As the tracks are still fresh your guide will be able to tell you the animal story of the night before and be able to track down the more elusive species. As the day becomes hotter and most game species move into the thicker, cooler bush, you will return to camp for brunch. Brunch in the African bush is not your ordinary breakfast. Fresh, wholesome produce, with a varied selection of breakfast items, brunch dishes, delectable fresh salads, cheeses, fruit and fire baked bread, with our chef at hand for any dietary requirements, will be there to welcome you back into camp.

After brunch, you are welcome to a siesta, catch up on writing postcard, or just relax in camp, listening to the sounds of the bush. In the late afternoon, after a light snack and tea, you will once again head off on an afternoon game drive. The afternoon drive offers the opportunity to find the animals not seen in the morning, to watch large congregations of elephants, zebra and other species come down to the river for an afternoon drink. As the sun starts setting and you return to camp you might be lucky enough to spot some elusive nocturnal species, such as hyena, genets, owls or the resident leopard on the prowl. You will be welcomed back into camp as the last sun rays disappear to enjoy a welcome refreshment around a roaring African fire. Dinner will be served by the chef, under the African night sky.

Day 1 and 2 will be spent in the Xaxanaka region, enjoying the same private campsite for 2 nights on a full board basis.

On Day 3 we break camp and head to Khwai, the eastern section of Moremi. Our drive takes us through Mopani forests and open plains where we will be able to see different species of game and have lunch en-route. We arrive in our new camp late afternoon. A short evening game drive rounds off the day, and we again enjoy a delicious dinner.



Khwai

On the northeast tip of Moremi, Khwai River is a lovely area where tall evergreen trees line a wide floodplain. It boasts an excellent density and diversity of predator and prey species. Saddle-billed storks, wattled cranes and many species of kingfishers and bee-eaters are common.

Day 4 takes us out on game drives exploring the new area of Moremi Game Reserve. Due to the different vegetation in this area there is the possibility of viewing species not seen yet. The Khwai River forms an integral part of this ecosystem and the large concentrations of elephant can be seen at the river, frolicking in the afternoon sun. Hippos abound in this area and the Khwai area is well known for superb leopard sightings.

Day 3 and 4 will be spent in the Khwai River area, enjoying the same private campsite for 2 nights on a full board basis.

DAYS 5 & 6: Savute, Chobe National Park

Day 5 is one of our longest drives. We leave Moremi Game Reserve via the Mababe Sand Ridge and enter the Chobe National Park, stopping for lunch en-route, arriving at our new camp in Savute in the late afternoon.



The Savute Marsh, fed by the Savute channel, has developed a reputation over the years as one of the world's premier predator viewing areas, boasting one of the highest concentrations of wildlife on the African continent. A number of award winning documentaries have cemented this reputation. Key to this area is the unpredictable Savute Channel, which sometimes flows from the Linyanti's waterways and into the heart of Chobe National Park, flooding the Savute Marsh. Even when dry, the marsh is a real attraction; a vast, open grassland dotted with the skeletons of drowned trees.

The lion and hyena and zebra migrations are synonymous with Savute but the area also hosts an excellent diversity of other predators and plains game species. Its pans and waterholes in the dry season sustain a large population of bull elephants. Many animals pass through here on their annual migrations – attracted by the marsh's particularly nutritious grasses. Zebra visit in large herds, accompanied by impala, wildebeest, giraffe, tsessebe, buffalo and elephant.

On Day 6 an early rise takes us in search of the movie stars of Africa, towards the Marsh area. The Savute area is also very well known for a cathedral like cluster of 13 giant Baobab trees. The baobab is a fascinating tree. The Bushmen believe that God gave all the animals' different seeds to plant. The hyena was last in line and received the baobab. He was so upset to be last in line that he planted the baobab upside down and that is why it is now fondly referred to as the 'upside down' tree. The Savute area vastly differs in vegetation and landscape from the Moremi Game reserve and your day will be filled with new discoveries.



Day 5 and 6 will again be spent in the same private camp, in the Savute area, on a full board basis.



DAY 7 & 8: Kasane/Chobe River, Chobe National Park



The Chobe National Park sprawls across 11 700 square km of open grassland, Mopani forests and acacia scrub. The Chobe was once a veritable crossroads for traders and explorers. The Chobe River becomes a vital water supply in the dry season, attracting large herds of elephant and buffalo along its banks. The elephant population is legendary, swelling to over 50 000 – equivalent to more than five per square kilometre – a density three times higher than the human population! The far north of the park, bordering the Chobe River, has long been renowned for its dense game. The lion are common and nonchalant, the antelope prolific, and the herds of buffalo and elephant among the largest anywhere. The birdlife is also excellent, from ubiquitous fish eagles to a myriad of herons and waders. The amazing fishing skills of the rare African skimmer are just one highlight of the Chobe River, along with some sizeable hippos and crocodiles.

On Day 7 we leave the dry area of Savute and head north to the perennial Chobe River. This riverfront is well known for its abundance of breeding herds of elephant and buffalo, as well as attracting all other game in search of water. We have lunch en route and a short afternoon game drive along the Chobe River in search of animals, before returning to a hotel for dinner. After six nights of camping in the African bush, we end off this safari in a well appointed hotel, with all the luxuries of home.

On Day 8 we leave early for the Chobe National Park, driving along the riverfront, experiencing the large herds of elephant coming down to drink and hippos wallowing in the Chobe river. Once the heat of the day sends them into hiding, we return to the hotel for brunch and a siesta. We venture out again in the afternoon for a boat cruise on the Chobe River. This allows for a different vantage point to see the hippos up close, elephants swimming across the river to the Sedudu Island and if lucky, large herds of buffalo grazing on the island. There is a chance to see the rare African Skimmer and also many other aquatic bird species.

Days 7 and 8 will again be spent in a hotel in Kasane on a full board basis.

DAY 09: Drop off Kasane or Maun

We leave early on the morning of Day 9 and return you to Kasane or Maun, where you can arrange to stay at a hotel for an additional night or to fly straight back home. This will conclude our tour, or you have the choice of the optional add-ons of Victoria Falls or Namibia.

Inclusive:

- All meals Day 1 to 9
- Mineral water, coffee & tea Day 1 to 9
- Boat cruise on Chobe River
- Game drives/activities as specified
- Service of a professional guide with 4x4 game drive vehicle
- Competent bush chef & camp hands
- Backup team, putting up camp in advance

Exclusions:

- Airport Tax
- Optional extras/activities/items not specified
- Travel Insurance
- All laundry and telephone calls are for your own account
- Visas & All flights

