



IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH

Letaka
SAFARIS

TOUR BROCHURE

EXPERIENCE BOTSWANA IN STYLE

Botswana is renowned for its exceptional and diverse wildlife, making it one of Africa's premier safari destinations. The country is characterised by vast, untouched wilderness areas that support an incredible variety of species.

Hey there traveller! Here is some information that may prove useful as you prepare for your trip. Understanding that such details can sometimes be tedious to read, we will begin with details of the region, followed by additional details for those interested, specific to the tour.

ABOUT NORTHERN BOTSWANA

Botswana is a land-locked country situated in southern Africa, and shares borders with South Africa, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Approximately two-thirds of Botswana lies within the Tropics and the country covers an area of 581 730 square kilometres – about the size of France or Kenya. The capital is Gaborone, with its tourist hub of Maun being the gateway to the Okavango Delta. Most of the country is flat, with some small hills in the eastern areas. Kalahari sands cover 84% of the surface area. With the exception of the northern areas, most of Botswana is without perennial surface water. Given the fore mentioned, Botswana has some amazing and diverse areas for all to explore and enjoy!

Northern Botswana is a region renowned for its stunning natural landscapes, abundant wildlife, and cultural significance. It is one of the most pristine and ecologically diverse areas in Africa, attracting visitors from around the world. It is here that one finds some of the most extraordinary natural wonders of Botswana. The Okavango Delta is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the world's largest inland deltas. The Chobe National Park is famous for its large population of elephants, estimated to be one of the highest densities in the world. The Moremi Game Reserve (located on the eastern edge of the Okavango Delta) is known for its incredible biodiversity.

The region plays a crucial role in conservation and eco-tourism, helping to preserve its fragile ecosystems while supporting local communities. It is a must-visit destination for nature enthusiasts, photographers, and anyone seeking a truly wild African safari experience.

ABOUT OUR HOSTS

For this tour, Focused on Wildlife has chosen to partner with Letaka Safaris to bring you an unforgettable tour of one of Africa's jewels – Botswana. Letaka is a citizen-owned safari company that has been operating in Botswana since October 2000. The founding directors, known locally as the Letaka Brothers, have over 36 years of combined guiding experience and have been guiding full-time in Botswana since the mid-90's. Originally all their safaris were owner-guided but the company has now grown to employ 9 of Botswana's most highly experienced mobile safari guides.

The focus of the company has always been on the quality of their guides, hence their close association with African Guide Academy (formerly known as Okavango Guiding School), a training facility which they created to elevate the standard of guiding in Botswana. Many of Botswana's top safari guides pass through AGA's doors at one time or another and Letaka are proud to continue this initiative to create a guiding fraternity that will stand head and shoulders above other African destinations.



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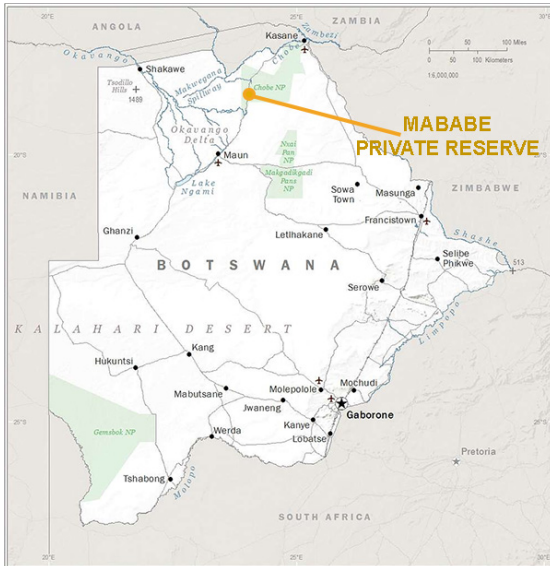
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ABOUT MOREMI GAME RESERVE

Moremi Game Reserve is situated in the central and eastern areas of the Okavango. Contained within an area of approximately 3900 sq kms, here land and Delta meet to create an exceedingly picturesque preserve of floodplains – either seasonally or perennially wet, waterways, lagoons, pools, pans, grasslands and riparian, riverine and mopane forests.

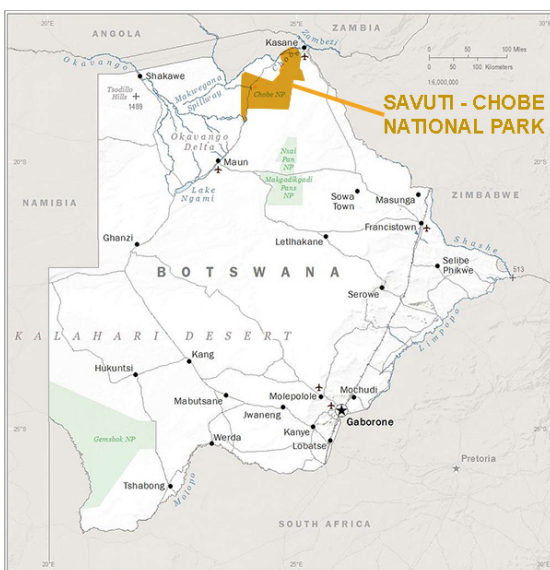
This makes for spectacular game viewing and bird watching, including all major naturally occurring herbivore and carnivore species in the region, and over 400 species of birds, many migratory and some endangered.



ABOUT MABABE PRIVATE RESERVE

Mababe Private Reserve, situated on the eastern edge of Botswana's Okavango Delta, spans approximately 2,935 square kilometers. This private reserve is renowned for its diverse ecosystems, including floodplains, savannahs, and woodlands, which support a rich variety of wildlife.

The reserve hosts abundant populations of elephants, lions, leopards, buffalo, and numerous antelope species. The seasonal Mababe Depression marsh attracts large herds during the summer months, providing excellent opportunities for wildlife observation. Bird enthusiasts can enjoy nearly 400 bird species inhabiting the area.



ABOUT SAVUTI AND CHOBE NATIONAL PARK

Within the Chobe National Park, Savuti is perhaps one of the best-known game-viewing areas in the country. Under ideal conditions, the number and variety of animals seen can be quite staggering.

This desolate, harsh landscape was once submerged beneath an enormous inland sea. Geologically the five main features of Savuti (namely the Magwikhwe Sand Ridge, the Mababe Depression, the Savuti Marsh with its dead trees, the Rocky Outcrops, and the Savuti Channel) are all intricately linked in the most fascinating manner.



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Health

A comprehensive First Aid kit is available on board the vehicles; we cannot however cover everything, if you have any medical problems or existing medical conditions please bring enough medication and inform us of these problems as soon as possible. For inoculations, please consult your local GP or health provider.

Malaria

The areas you will be travelling in are malaria areas. We suggest you speak to your local GP or healthcare provider and take the action he/she recommends as there are various differing ideas about what prophylactics to take, if at all. Some of the prophylactics can cause side effects such as nausea, headaches and a lowering of your resistance to the sun. It is also important to bear in mind that malaria can be contracted despite taking tablets. We provide insect repellent on safari but you are welcome to bring your own and please use them liberally, especially in the warmer months.

Weather and Temperatures in Celsius

Summer (October – April) is hot in the middle of the day, sometimes as high 40 degrees Celsius in October, our hottest month, but this is uncommon, becoming cooler but still warm at night. The average day time temperatures are in the mid 30's dropping to the low 20's during the night. Botswana is a summer rainfall region and late afternoon showers can be common from December to April.

Winter (May – September) can go below 0 degrees C at night but during the day it warms up substantially to about 25 degrees Celsius. Early morning game drives on an open vehicle can be quite chilly (particularly in July and August when scarves and warm hats are recommended). Dressing in layers is the best way to deal with the varying temperatures during the winter months, and a windproof jacket is a good idea.

You will spend a lot of time outdoors and may have a sunny seat so bring a high factor sun cream, all year round, as the sun here is harsh. A cool, light long-sleeved shirt will also come in handy to protect you from the sun. A wide brimmed hat is a must as are a good pair of sunglasses.

Clothing

If you are travelling in summer, a good sweater (jumper) is recommended, as it can get rather cool, especially if you are doing any boat trips as well as a light raincoat. Light trousers and a cool long-sleeved shirt in the evenings in summer will help protect you from the mosquitoes. For the remainder bring light cotton clothing.

For walks it is recommended that you bring neutral coloured clothing (beige, khaki, olive, stone etc.) but when travelling in the vehicle, most colours are fine – light colours generally being cooler. Dark blue and black clothing are not recommended. Bring clothing that can be hand washed easily and dried quickly.

Bring some good walking shoes and sandals (with sturdy soles to protect you from the large thorns) or thongs as you may need to get your feet wet on boating excursions. You may get opportunities to swim, so bring along a swimming outfit. Don't forget your sun hat!

Drinking Water, Food and Drinks

Although Botswana's water is generally safe to drink, we supply filtered water on all our safaris. It is important to remember to drink enough water while on safari. If you are travelling in the summer months you should bring re-



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hydration salts to add to your water. One sachet per person per day will be sufficient and will prevent any dehydration problems. Rehydration salts are available in most pharmacies in powder form which is the most suitable for travel.

All meals and drinks are provided; please inform us if you have any special requirements or if you are allergic to any food. Wine, local beer and soft drinks are provided. Water, tea and coffee are available all day. Spirits are also available on request and included in the price. The spirits that are available are Gin, Vodka, Whiskey and Brandy. If you have any requests not mentioned above, please make the request and we will do our best to order it for you. A preference form will be sent to you after your deposit is cleared so that you can tell us about your preferences.

Luggage limitations

On a safari where bush flights are included, the maximum luggage weight is 20kg inclusive of hand luggage. Duffel/soft bags are essential as these pack easier into aircraft and vehicles, hard cases are not recommended as they might not fit into the pod of the aircraft and you may be asked to repack into an alternative bag. If you feel you are not able to pack to these weight requirements an additional seat on the charter flight can be purchased ahead of time – please contact Focused On Wildlife for a quotation or for further information on luggage limitations.

Equipment

Binoculars, even if you are not a regular birder, are a **must** for safari. One pair per person will greatly enhance your safari experience, this may seem like an unnecessary cost if this is the only time you think you are going to use them but if you don't want to buy, then take our advice – beg, borrow or steal! 10x42 is an ideal magnification but any binoculars will enhance your experience.

If you are going to bring an expensive camera along, we recommend you bring a good camera case as the roads are bumpy and there is a lot of dust. Beanbags for the car windows can be provided for you on request. If you are using digital photographic equipment you would be well advised to purchase a 12V charger for your battery. This must be able to plug into a standard car cigarette lighter port. We do have 220V A/C inverters in the vehicles so please bring your standard AC charger for your electronic rechargeable items as well as an adapter that conforms to South African (plug type M) standards. Although lighting around the campsites is provided, a good torch is essential at night. We recommend a handheld flashlight for use around camp and head torches with 3+ LED units to use in your tents and for reading at night.

Money and Tipping

Since your safari is prepaid, you will not need to travel with much cash. Botswana currency is in Pula (P) and Thebe (t). The best denominations to bring to Botswana are Euro, GBP and US Dollars. If you wish you will be able to exchange money in both Maun and Kasane. We provide guidelines on tipping strictly for your information, tipping is optional and the amount is entirely up to you but these are the 'industry standards'.

Guides x1: USD10.00 per person per day

Safari Chef x1: USD5.00 per person per day

General Staff x2: USD5.00 per person per day

If you have any questions which are not answered by this document, please **e-mail** us with your queries to: info@victor-soares.com