

THE LEOPARD SAFARI

Adventure Camping
(Tour Code: BWP)

16-NIGHT/17-DAY SAFARI

The Leopard Safari provides a comprehensive and broad travelling experience throughout Botswana – introducing you to one of the oldest cultures in the world, the San Bushmen, before enjoying the magical Okavango Delta and exploring Moremi Game Reserve and Chobe National Park.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- 2 nights Deception Valley Private Reserve, San cultural experience
- 3 nights Central Kalahari Game Reserve
- 1 night Makgadikgadi National Park surrounds
- 3 nights Okavango Delta, mokoro excursions, optional scenic flight over the Okavango Delta
- 3 nights Moremi Game Reserve
- 3 nights Chobe National Park
- 1 night at a comfortable lodge in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, optional visit to the Falls

Let us take you on an unforgettable journey, a 16 night adventure camping safari that explores nature's untouched areas. This safari offers a holistic and immersive experience, combining the thrill of outdoor adventure with the beauty of diverse ecosystems and the richness of cultural interactions. Ending with the grandeur of Victoria Falls, it promises to be a memorable journey for nature and adventure enthusiasts.

Please note: As the safari starts at 07h30 on day 1, you will need to pre-night in Maun and purchase drinks for your safari the day before your safari starts. Bush Ways Safaris can assist with pre-safari arrangements (accommodation, transfers).

Day 1 – 2: Deception Valley Private Reserve – camping

The safari begins in Maun where your guide will meet you at 07h30 at your lodge. You will travel 160km to a private reserve on the northern border of the Central Kalahari Game Reserve. Upon arrival you will set up camp and have a safari briefing.

You will explore the area for the next two days, enjoying game drives and participate in a nature walk led by a local San tracker. They will share intricate bush knowledge and give you an insight into their unique and intriguing culture. Game drives will allow you to explore the area, home to a fascinating variety of desert specialised wildlife such as oryx, springbok and eland as well as predators including lion, brown hyena and cheetah. Savor the vast open spaces, clear night skies and uninterrupted beauty. This is adventure camping in its purest form as water and communications are limited and we travel as a self-sufficient group. (Day 1 - L, D, Day 2 - B, L, D)

Maun – Deception Valley Private Reserve (northern border CKGR): 160km, 5h

Day 3 - 5: Central Kalahari Game Reserve, camping

You will wake up as the sun rises and head toward the pristine wilderness of the largest game reserve in Botswana. The next three days will be spent exploring the undeveloped wilderness of the northern region of the Central Kalahari Game Reserve. Camping is in a private designated campsite with bush ablutions. (B, L, D)

Deception Valley Private Reserve – Central Kalahari Game Reserve: 80km, 3-4h (including game drive)

Day 6: Makgadikgadi, comfortable lodge

This is your last morning in the Kalahari, after breaking camp you will do a slow drive to the Makgadikgadi area. You will spend the night at a camp on the edge of the Makgadikgadi National Park, overlooking the Boteti River in Khumaga village. Enjoy an afternoon game drive into Makgadikgadi National Park. (B,L,D)

Central Kalahari Game Reserve – Boteti River Camp: 180km, 4-5h (including game drive)

Day 7 - 9: Okavango Delta, camping

After an early morning breakfast, you will pass by Maun for drinks shopping, essential for the remainder of your safari. Once you have reached the edge of the Okavango Delta by the Gomoti River, you will meet your polers from the local community with their mekoro (dugout canoes). Quietly cruising along river channels and floodplains, you will enjoy the spectacular landscape of this unique region taking you deep inside the Delta. You will spend three days exploring this beautiful area with mokoro excursions and guided nature walks on the islands and floodplains of the Okavango, camping wild with bush ablutions on a small island for two nights and one night on the edge of a lagoon.

On the afternoon of the third day, you will have the option of taking a 30min flight in a helicopter with doors removed, allowing magnificent views from above. Rate TBA by your guide/agent. This experience must be booked during the safari, and payment made in USD cash only. The flight over the Okavango gives you an eagle's eye perspective of the area and it is even possible to spot large game animals such as elephants, giraffes and hippopotami. (B, L, D)

Boteti River Camp – Okavango Delta: 210km, 5h

NOTE: You will leave your main luggage in the trailer and will need to pack a smaller bag (small backpack, hand luggage) with what you need for the 2 nights on the island. Transfers from the mainland to the island where you will stay are done on dugout canoes (mekoro) which cannot accommodate large bags. Your main luggage will safely remain in the vehicle that will be parked in a secured area while you are on the island.

Day 10 - 12: Moremi Game Reserve / Xakanaka/3rd Bridge and Khwai, camping

After an early breakfast, you will make your way to Moremi Game Reserve, one of the best wilderness areas of Botswana, which features both floodplain and woodland habitats. The next three days will be spent searching for the wide variety of wildlife and birds that this area is renowned for while delighting in the beauty of this region. You will spend 3 nights exploring this wonderful Game Reserve, at two different campsites. Game drives in the early morning and in the late afternoon as the sun sets will be the norm. Camping will be in private designated campsites with bush ablutions. (B, L, D)

Okavango Delta –Moremi: 90km, 5h (transfer and game drive)

Day 13: Southern Chobe National Park (Savute / Zwei Zwei), camping

Chobe National Park, with its diverse and striking landscapes, will be your next destination. As you continue your search for wildlife, you will traverse the drier region of Savute where bull elephants dot the plains. The Savute region is known for its dynamic ecosystem, which can undergo significant changes over time. The presence of waterholes, dry river channels, and marshes can attract a diverse range of animals, making each game drive a thrilling and unpredictable adventure. Camping will be in private designated areas with bush ablutions. (B, L, D)

Moremi – Savute : 120km, 7-8h (transfer and game drive)

Day 14: Northern Chobe National Park, camping

You will then head northwards to the Chobe River where your game drives will meander along the banks of the river, following the call of the majestic African Fish Eagle. Enjoy a wide variety of animals including puku and Chobe bushbuck, as well as stunning birdlife in this unique river environment. Transfer / game drive from Southern Chobe National Park to the Chobe River floodplain. Game drives to explore Northern Chobe National Park. (B, L, D)

Savuti - Chobe River: 170km, 5-6h (transfer and game drive)

Day 15: Northern Chobe National Park, camping

Game drives to explore Northern Chobe and floodplain. (B, L, D)

Day 16: Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe comfortable lodge

After a short morning game drive your guide will take you to the Kazungula border where you will meet the transfer vehicle for your lodge in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe (Visa required). You will spend the night at a comfortable lodge. In the afternoon there will be time to visit the thunderous Victoria Falls and shop for curios. Lunch and dinner will be at your own expense. (B)

Chobe River – Victoria Falls: 100km, 3h (excluding border crossing)

Day 17: END OF THE SAFARI

The safari officially ends after breakfast on Day 17, at the lodge. Bush Ways is happy to arrange post-tour accommodation, activities and transfers to Victoria Falls airport or lodges or Kasane, Botswana, at an additional cost. Activities in Victoria Falls include White Water Rafting down the Zambezi Gorge, Canoeing on the upper Zambezi and Helicopter Flights over the Victoria Falls, please ask the lodge reception for further details. (B)

Price includes:

Camping equipment and accommodation (spacious bow tents with mattresses), rooms at comfortable lodges in Khumaga and Victoria Falls, all transfers and activities as per the itinerary, all meals that are indicated (B – breakfast, L – lunch, D – dinner) and filtered drinking water, tea/coffees, services of a Professional Guide and Camp Assistant, all Botswana park fees for activities included on itinerary and transport in specialised safari vehicles. Okavango Air Rescue.

Does not include:

Restaurant meals (Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe), entrance to the Falls, visas, airport transfers, tips, curios, optional excursions (scenic flight over the Delta and activities in Victoria Falls), beverages (alcohol and soft drinks), insurance to cover for cancellation and curtailment, medical, baggage, emergency evacuation, sleeping bag (and small pillow) on all camping sectors, any increase in National Park Fees.

ABOUT OUR ADVENTURE CAMPING SAFARIS

Description: camping safari requiring a minimum participation from the guests, i.e.: setting up the tent and packing it / carrying their bag from/to vehicle at campsites. The rest of the camp chores are carried out by our team made up of one guide and one camp assistant.

Equipment: Tents are 2.1m x 2.1m x 1.75m. A 5cm high density foam mattress is provided for each guest. Ablutions are shared and bush ablutions set up by our team when staying in game reserves and national park campsites.

Vehicle: 4x4 safari vehicles custom-built by Bush Ways - custom built trailers.

of guests: Max 12 pax – No minimum pax required, safari is guaranteed once Bush Ways has accepted and confirmed a departure.

Itineraries: We have 6 different Adventure Camping Safari programs: Leopard safari (17 days), Lion safari (15 days), Fish Eagle safari (11 days), Jackal safari (11 days), Buffalo safari (8 days), Kalahari safari (7 days)

Profile: Adventures maintaining the exhilarating spirit of the pioneer.

For our picture database, see:

Adventure Camping equipment: <https://goo.gl/photos/2bQWnpJtZFJwdxNm9>

Vehicles: <https://goo.gl/photos/Dd2sTpACnmtw5SiH7>