
Elephant an African icon | Chobe



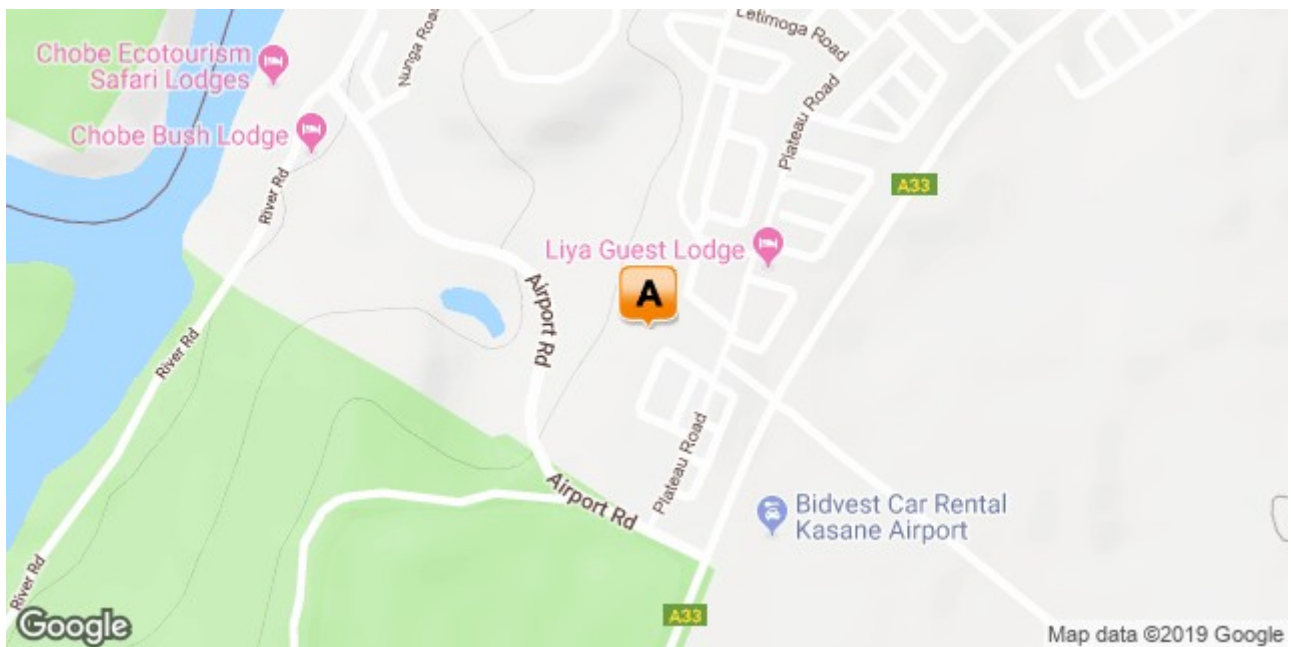
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Chobe River Front

5 Days / 4 Nights

Reference: Ele-Bots1

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Introduction

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
Pangolin Chobe Lodge	Chobe River Front	FI	4 Nights

Key

FI: Fully Inclusive

Included

- 4 nights accommodation
- Meals
- Local drinks
- Activities as stated
- Road and/or air transfers as stated
- Park fees where stated
- Shared accommodation

Excluded

- Visas
- Travel/Medical Insurance (required)
- Gratuities
- Personal items such as curio purchases
- International flights

Day 1-4: Pangolin Chobe Lodge, Chobe River Front

Chobe River Front

The Chobe River forms the northern boundary of the Chobe National Park, renowned for its diverse and abundant game viewing opportunities. This section of the park is best known for its dense concentration of wildlife including elephant and hippo populations, but the waters attract all manner of game including large herds of buffalo and the lions that prey on them. A visit to this area guarantees close encounters with an array of African wildlife. Visitors can look forward to some exciting activities such as: driving along the game-dotted river banks in a 4WD; cruising along the river in a motorboat, spotting rare birdlife and for a unique, luxury safari experience, hire a houseboat.

Overnight: Pangolin Chobe Lodge [View iBrochure](#)

Perched on the plateau overlooking the Caprivi Floodplains The Pangolin Chobe Hotel is best described as a boutique gallery-style lodge.

The lodge features large communal areas adorned with spectacular wildlife images and 14 rooms all with private balconies and views.

The lodge is built with environmental best practices in mind and the utilisation of reclaimed and recycled materials as much as possible.

Activities at the Hotel include photo safaris on the river and land using specialist boats and vehicles and hosted by the resident photographic guides. The lodge has plenty of camera gear available to be used by guests as part of their photo safari packages. In the afternoons and evenings, talks and workshops will be held in the communal areas by the photo guides on various photographic subjects.

The lodge operates on a full board basis with delicious and varied meals served along with specially selected wines and spirits.



Activities

Photo Safari in The Chobe National Park on a photo boat

Photo Safari in The Chobe National Park on a photo boat

This is the Pangolin signature activity - a three-hour photo safari on one of our photo boats on The Chobe River. All camera gear and tuition is included and a free memory card is supplied to take your images away with you.

Departure times vary depending on the time of year. This is to allow for optimum lighting conditions. The morning cruise is usually an early one – at around 6am. The afternoon safari departs at about 3pm and returns at sunset. Again, this is subject to change depending on the time of year but these can be used as a rough guideline.

We are so proud of our boats as they provide such a unique vantage point. We are able to get into the perfect position every time- without fail. The hull is very stable to provide for your optimum security. There is plenty of room for all your equipment should you be bringing your own gear. If you chose to use your own camera we will fit a base plate to the lens collar to mount it onto the seat and camera mount.

During the 3 hour cruise on the river, your photo guide will show you how the cameras work. They will also advise you on how to frame and compose the subject to capture a truly great image. We take the liberty of setting the cameras up each day for you, to suit the conditions. The fact that the Chobe is such a game rich environment and, in no time, you will be taking some images that truly do your safari in Chobe justice.

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

- Accommodation

- Meals
 - Local drinks
 - Activities
 - Use of cameras, lenses, memory cards
 - Access to editing room
 - Tuition from resident photographic host
 - Road transfers as stated
 - Park fees
 - Shared accommodation
-

Excluded

- Visas
 - Travel/Medical Insurance (required)
 - Gratuities
 - Personal items such as curio purchases
 - International flights
-

Day 5: End of Itinerary

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Travel Information



Situated in the southern reaches of Africa, Botswana is renowned for its pristine wilderness areas characterised by deep lagoons, wetlands, lush palms, rugged hills and desert plains scattered with scrubland. The country's primary tourist drawcard is undoubtedly the vast red expanse of the Kalahari Desert and its remarkably beautiful Okavango Delta, the largest inland delta in the world. These natural wonders provide a tranquil haven for an abundance of African wildlife to thrive. Other highlights include the impressive Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, where visitors are privy to massive zebra migrations during the flood season; the Savuti plains, which host large prides of lions; and the Tsodilo Hills, where 4500 rock paintings form a unique record of human settlement over many millennia.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Botswana's currency is Pula (which means 'rain' in Setswana). It is divided into 100 thebe (which means 'shield' in Setswana). Travellers' cheques and foreign currency may be changed at banks, bureaux de change and authorised hotels.

The US dollar, Euros, British Pound and the South African Rand are the most easily convertible currencies (and accepted by some establishments - but, generally, then an inflated rate of exchange will be applied).

Banking

Seven main commercial banks, as well as a number of foreign exchange bureaux, operate in Botswana. Operating hours are Monday to Friday 08h30 to 15h30 and Saturday 08h30 to 10h45.

Full banking services are available in major towns, although ATMs are sprouting up all over the country. Most credit cards are accepted at hotels and restaurants. Cultural sites and community art and craft outlets usually only accept cash.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Public transport in Botswana is geared towards the needs of the local populace and is confined to main roads between major population centres. Although cheap and reliable, it is of little use to the traveller as most of Botswana's tourist attractions lie off the beaten track.

Driving off the main roads in Botswana is only recommended to experts in 4x4 vehicles, that are equipped correctly. Most lodges offer transfers or they can be arranged. If, however, you will be driving in Botswana: your home driving

licence will be accepted (with an official English translation if necessary; driving is on the left side of the road; and the national speed limit is on tarred roads is 120km/h and 60km/h in towns and villages.

Be sure to watch out for wild animals on the roads!

There are major airports in Maun, Kasane and Gaborone, while smaller charter flights are used to get to the other top attractions and camps.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Tap water is considered safe to drink, although outside main cities and towns, visitors are advised to check first and sterilise water if in any doubt. Bottled water is available in most tourist centres. Filtered water is available at most camps and shops offer bottled water - it is advised to be well stocked of bottled water if you are travelling off the beaten track. Milk is pasteurised, and dairy products, local meat, poultry, seafood, fruit and vegetables are generally safe.

Safari lodges and camps serve international-style cuisine, generally of an extremely high standard, along with local beer and imported wine and spirits. Good restaurants and bars can be found in main towns, often within hotels. Beef and goat are very popular meats. Elsewhere, food is more basic: millet and sorghum porridge are the local staples.

A discretionary 5 to 10% tip is typical for restaurant bills. In many places, a service charge is automatically added. It is customary to tip the game guide and lodge staff while on safari.

Climate and Weather

Botswana's climatic pattern is typical of southern Africa, although its rainfall is less than countries further east. The rains in Botswana come mostly between December and March, when average minimum temperatures are in the low 20's. Some days will be bright and sunny, some will have afternoon thunderstorms, and some will just be grey.

As with Namibia, April and May in Botswana are generally lovely, with the sky clear and the landscape green. Night temperatures start to drop during these months, especially in the Kalahari. Note that places in and around the Okavango tend to have less extreme, more moderate temperatures than the drier areas of the Kalahari.

From June to August the night-time temperatures in drier areas can be close to freezing, but it warms up rapidly during the day, when the sky is usually clear and blue. It's now very much 'peak season' for most safari areas: the land is dry in most areas so the animals congregate around the few available water sources.

This continues into September and October, when temperatures climb again, drying the landscapes and concentrating the game even more. This is the best time for big game safaris – although October can feel very hot, with maximum temperatures sometimes approaching 40°C.

November is difficult to predict, as it can sometimes be a continuation of October's heat, whilst sometimes it's cooled by the first rains; it's always an interesting month.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

In summer, lightweight, lightcoloured cottons are preferable. Avoid synthetic materials and black clothing, as they increase perspiration and discomfort. In winter, wear trousers, long-sleeved shirts / blouses and jerseys. From May – August, night temperatures can fall below zero degrees celsius, so warm jerseys and jackets are vital, especially on morning and evening game drives. Garments of neutral colours that blend with the bush and forest are advisable for safaris and game viewing. Bring a lightweight jacket and/or jersey for unexpected temperature changes or rain. Closed, comfortable walking shoes or gym shoes are a must in all seasons. Special attention should be given to

protection from the sun. Bring a sunhat, good quality sunscreen, sun lotion and polarised sunglasses. Wide brimmed sun hats are essential.

Electricity and Plug Standards

Electrical sockets (outlets) in Botswana are the "Type M " South African SABS1661 ("Large" 15 amp BS-546) sockets. This is actually an old British standard. The "Type M " South African plug and socket is not to be confused with the "Type D " Indian plug and socket. In pictures, they look very similar, but the South African type is much larger than the Indian type, and they are physically incompatible. If your appliance's plug doesn't match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in. Travel plug adapters simply change the shape of your appliance's plug to match whatever type of socket you need to plug into.

Electrical sockets (outlets) in Botswana usually supply electricity at between 220 and 240 volts AC. If you're plugging in an appliance that was built for 220-240 volt electrical input, or an appliance that is compatible with multiple voltages, then an adapter is all you need.

But travel plug adapters *do not change the voltage*, so the electricity coming through the adapter will still be the same 220-240 volts the socket is supplying. If you need to use appliances that are not compatible with 220-240 volt electrical input, you will need a voltage converter.

Terms and Conditions

Itinerary Terms and Conditions

- All lodge cancellation policies are in place once confirmation received (cancellation of 20% up to 90 days prior to departure date, thereafter additional cancellation fees apply)
- Charter flights allow for a maximum of 20kgs of luggage in soft sided bags - please see booking form for full details on the air transfers.