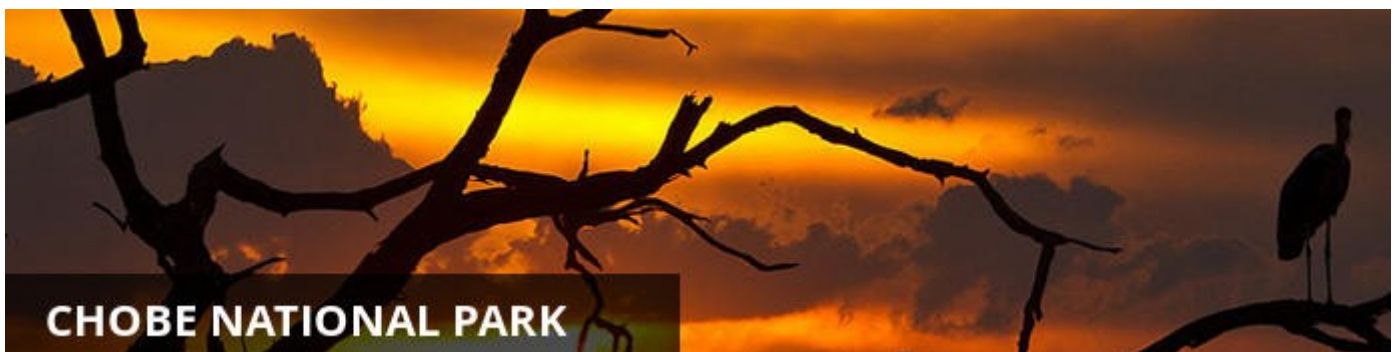

Elephant an African icon | Kasane and Chobe



Elephant an African icon | Kasane and Chobe

Chobe River Front - Chobe National Park

6 Days / 5 Nights

Reference: Ele-Bots2

Date of Issue: 08 February 2019



[Click here to view your Digital Itinerary](#)

Introduction

Accommodation	Type	Destination	Basis	Duration
Kubu Lodge		Chobe River Front	D, B&B	1 Night
Letaka Tented Camp			FI	3 Nights
→ Chobe Riverfront	camp	Chobe National Park		3 Nights
Kubu Lodge		Chobe River Front	D, B&B	1 Night

Key

D, B&B: Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

FI: Fully Inclusive

Included

- 5 nights accommodation
- Meals
- Local drinks on the mobile
- Activities as stated
- Road and/or air transfers as stated
- Park fees where stated
- Shared accommodation

Excluded

- Visas
- Drinks at Kubu Lodge
- Lunch at Kubu Lodge
- Travel/Medical Insurance (required)
- Gratuities
- Personal items such as curio purchases
- International flights

Day 1: Kubu 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: Kubu Lodge

Kubu Lodge is a small, privately owned and run lodge on the banks of Botswana's Chobe River. The 11 elevated thatched chalets, shaded beneath giant ebony and wild fig trees, overlook a spreading lawn to the river's edge. An idyllic setting. The lodge restaurant offers excellent cuisine that is a fusion of European and African styles. Other facilities include a bar, gift shop, short nature walk and a secluded swimming pool. On the doorstep of the world famous Chobe National Park it is easy to enjoy an exceptional wildlife experience by open 4x4 safari vehicle or by boat on the Chobe River. The mighty Victoria Falls is a mere hour away and day trips can be arranged. With no phones, radios or television, and no 5 star prices, Kubu Lodge is the ideal place from which to explore this fascinating region.



Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Included

- Accommodation
- Dinner and breakfast
- Road transfers as stated
- Shared accommodation

Excluded

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

Day 2-4: Letaka Tented Camp, Chobe National Park

Chobe National Park

Renowned for its impressive, shifting migratory population of more than 50 000 elephants, Chobe National Park is situated in the far northeast of Botswana, bordered to the north by the mighty Chobe River. It is the second largest

national park in Botswana featuring four distinct ecosystems: the Savuti Channel in the west; the Linyanti Swamps in the northwest; the arid hinterland in between and Serondela in the extreme northeast with fertile plains and thick forests. This diversity of habitats provides a sanctuary to an astonishing array of African wildlife. In addition to spotting Chobe's great pachyderm herds, you are likely to spot lion, leopard, hyena, wild dog, impala, waterbuck, kudu, zebra, wildebeest giraffe, and warthog. The park is also famous for its wonderful riverboat safaris, making Chobe an essential destination for any avid safari enthusiast.

Day Itinerary

The best game viewing is the early morning and so each day begins at the first hint of dawn with a coffee and light breakfast around the fire. From here we go straight into game-drive, walking safari or boat trip. After several hours of wildlife viewing we stop for a comfort break and have tea, coffee and cookies. Between 10 and 11 am we return to camp where there is time to freshen up with warm water in your standing basins before enjoying a sumptuous brunch consisting of fresh-baked camp bread, baked dishes and cold salads. After brunch there is time to relax, siesta, read a book, shower etc. before heading out in the late afternoon for our game-drive or boat trip. In areas outside of the National Parks we may also return to camp after dark with the use of a spotlight to look for nocturnal game.

This is a guideline as to what happens on most exploration days. The course of each day's events will be determined by local conditions, distribution of birds and mammals, safety and the decision of your guide.

Overnight: Letaka Tented Camp

The tents are 4 x 3m Sahara style tents with high roof with a 2 x 3m en-suite bathroom and a 2 x 3m covered area in front of the tent. The tents are fitted with solid base camp beds made up with mattresses, sheets, duvets and pillows. The tents have en-suite long drop toilet facilities and a bucket shower at the rear of the tent. Showers can be ordered as hot, cold or warm and the water is heated in a bucket on the fire. Showers may be taken at any time but on Kalahari safaris the guide withholds the right to limit water use and showering depending upon the availability of water. Both hand towels and bath towels are supplied for the guests' convenience but please note that guests should bring their own personal items and toiletries.

Each tent has an oil/paraffin lamp on the veranda and in the bathroom and within the tent itself, a LED rechargeable camp light is supplied along with a side table in the sleeping area and in the bathroom. Although each tent has lighting and there are lamps strategically around the camp for navigation, an essential tool for your safari is a headlamp which lets you read a book at night in your tent or catch up with your safari journal as you listen to the sounds of the wild outside! If you don't buy it from us make sure you buy it from someone and take our advice – don't pack the free headlamp you got at the supermarket with your battery purchase. Spending a little bit of money will save you a lot of frustration. If you are travelling as a couple then pack one per person.



Activities

Chobe Game Viewing

Chobe Game Viewing

Chobe is renowned for its excellent game viewing, especially for herds of elephants which come down to the river to drink.

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

- Fully serviced en-suite tents
 - All meals and local drinks
 - Private guide and vehicle
 - Personal chef and camp crew
 - Game drive activities
 - Photographic mounts on vehicle
 - Laundry
 - Park fees and Government levies
 - Medical evacuation cover (guests are still required to have personal travel and medical insurance)
-

Excluded

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

Day 5: Kubu Lodge, Chobe River Front

Chobe River Front

See Above

Overnight: Kubu Lodge

Kubu Lodge is a small, privately owned and run lodge on the banks of Botswana's Chobe River. The 11 elevated thatched chalets, shaded beneath giant ebony and wild fig trees, overlook a spreading lawn to the river's edge. An idyllic setting. The lodge restaurant offers excellent cuisine that is a fusion of European and African styles. Other facilities include a bar, gift shop, short nature walk and a secluded swimming pool. On the doorstep of the world famous Chobe National Park it is easy to enjoy an exceptional wildlife experience by open 4x4 safari vehicle or by boat on the Chobe River. The mighty Victoria Falls is a mere hour away and day trips can be arranged. With no

phones, radios or television, and no 5 star prices, Kubu Lodge is the ideal place from which to explore this fascinating region.



Activities

Chobe Boat Cruise

Chobe Boat Cruise

The Chobe Boat Cruise is a wonderful way to experience the Chobe National Park. Puku and lechwe antelopes are common on the Chobe Floodplains and herds of elephants can be seen crossing the Chobe River to the islands. Other common sites are hippos and crocodiles basking in the sun. There are a variety of boating options for the Chobe boat cruises. Guests can join a standard cruise on a river cruiser taking about 30-40 people or have the opportunity to take a smaller boat and focus on photography and birding. The bigger boats have bars on board for drinks and soft drinks. All Chobe boat cruises depart from Kasane, the town which borders onto the Chobe national park. There are regular afternoon and morning departures.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Included

- Accommodation
 - Dinner and breakfast
 - 3 hour Chobe River cruise
 - Road transfers as stated
 - Shared accommodation
-

Excluded

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

- International flights
-

Day 6: 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, longsleeved 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.