



# Central Kalahari & Highlights

DURATION: FROM 17 DAYS  
WILDERNESS, WILDLIFE & ADVENTURE

# INTRODUCTION

This is a trip with tremendous "Wow Factor". The Central Kalahari Game Reserve is recognized as being one of the most remote and challenging self-drive destinations on the Planet. However, with your Driver Training experience, you will confidently be prepared to set out on this adventure and enjoy the highlights of Northern Botswana, Victoria Falls, Makgadikgadi Salt Pans and then the Central Kalahari as the finale. Don't forget – these trips may be altered to suit your individual requirements so please do ask our friendly reservations team for advice on how to create your self-drive adventure of a lifetime. Guided safaris also available.





# ITINERARY

Day	Destination	Camping	Mixed Accommodation	Luxury Lodge
1	Maun	Audi Campsite	Thamalakane River Lodge	Thamalakane River Lodge
2 & 3	Moremi	3rd Bridge Campsite	3rd Bridge Campsite	Camp Moremi / Camp Xakanaxa
4 - 6	Savute	Savute Campsite	Savute Campsite	Savute Safari Lodge
7 & 8	Chobe	Chobe Safari Lodge Campsite	Chobe Safari Lodge Campsite	Chobe Game Lodge
9 & 10	Victoria Falls	Municipal Campsite	Batonka Guest Lodge	The Elephant Camp
11	Nata	Elephant Sands Campsite	Elephant Sands Campsite	Nata Lodge



# ITINERARY

Day	Destination	Camping	Mixed Accommodation	Luxury Lodge
12	Khumaga	Khumaga Campsite	Leroo La Tau	Leroo La Tau
13 & 14	Makgadikgadi	Planet Baobab Campsite	Planet Baobab Hut	Camp Kalahari
15 - 17	Central Kalahari	Campsite	Campsite	Tau Pan Camp
18	Maun	Departure Day		
RATE TO CLIENT		\$4,867	\$9,319	\$19,634

- Rates based on: 2 people sharing, Green/Low Season 2020, Toyota LandCruiser 4 x 4. Full details of vehicle & equipment see page 11.
- Please see page 10 for information on what is included and excluded in rate.





# DAY BY DAY

## **DAY 1 - Arrive Maun and overnight**

Arriving in Maun at around lunchtime if flying from overseas, our TAB team will meet you on arrival and give you a detailed briefing of the vehicle, all equipment, the route and current conditions and advice on how to drive in this unique environment. This will take 2-3 hours and you will then drive yourself to your overnight location.

## **DAY 2 & 3 - Maun to Moremi Game - 2 nights' stay - Driving time approx. 5 hours and 138km distance**

Today starts with your first adventure! Learning to drive the amazing Toyota Landcruiser 4x4 with our unique "Super Duper Driver Training". You will put the Cruiser through her paces just outside of Maun. You will get stuck (badly!) and learn how to get yourself out using the special gear supplied. Training takes about 2 hours and once finished, you will feel confident and be competent to drive in challenging terrain and you will take home a new life skill with you!

Before heading to Moremi, you will have time to shop for provisions in Maun to last you for the next 6 days. Be sure to take enough Fuel, Food, Drinks, Snacks (and Firewood if camping), to last you until you reach Kasane.

Moremi Game Reserve is in the heart of the world-famous Okavango Delta. Here you will find an array of animals and birdlife that depend on the life-giving waters of the Delta. Iconic species include Elephant, Lion, Leopard, Giraffe, Kudu, Impala, Baboon and possibly Rhino. The Reserve is exceptionally beautiful, particularly in times of high flood (June-September) and in the Summer (December-March).

Activities on the water, for those staying in lodges, in the traditional mokoro or in a motorboat offer a contrasting experience focused on finding aquatic species including Red Lechwe Antelope, Hippo, Crocodile and a myriad of birdlife. Helicopter scenic flights are highly recommended, giving terrific aerial views of the Delta's waterways and inhabitant wildlife. These must be booked in advance with us.



#### **DAY 4 & 5 - Moremi Game Reserve to Savute - 2 nights' stay - Driving time approx. 6 hours and 161km distance**

Driving to Savute can be more of a challenge, but with training under your belt and some experience now in the 4x4 environment, this is exciting rather than daunting! Savute is part of the greater Chobe National Park, but differs considerably from the Chobe Riverfront area to the north, where the Chobe River flows. The mercurial and unpredictable Savute Channel flows infrequently and is currently dry. Remaining water holes and pools attract a great variety of animals and birds including less common species such as The Crowned Crane and along with a great number of predators including Lion, Leopard, Wild Dog and Hyena, you may find Bat-Eared Foxes and even Ostrich, normally associated with more arid areas. Savute's huge monolithic rock formations feature ancient Bushman paintings and cast an impressive shadow over the open marshland. This area springs to life during Summer rains (December-March), as vast numbers of Wildebeest and Zebra are attracted to the succulent, nutritious grasses.

#### **DAY 6 & 7 - Savute to Chobe - 2 nights' stay - Driving time approx. 5 hours and 163km distance**

Home to the world's largest Elephant population, Chobe is Botswana's most visited National Park for good reason. Here, with the permanent and mighty Chobe River, animals seek refuge in the shoreline and outlying forests. Whilst Elephant in plentiful numbers are usually seen - particularly during drier months - the Park is home to great numbers of Buffalo, huge Crocodiles, the striking Sable Antelope, as well as the Chobe Bushbuck and Puku Antelope. Game drives in the Riverfront area offer great game viewing potential - it is not uncommon to see prides of Lion heading to the River to drink. However, a visit to Chobe is not complete without time on the River itself. Beautiful and bountiful birds, Elephants cavorting in the River and great pods of Hippo are just some of the incredible sightings to be had here. In addition, Chobe and Kasane (the town neighboring Chobe National Park and located on the Riverfront), offer a chance to reconnect with the outside world, with pretty reliable wifi and cellphone signals.



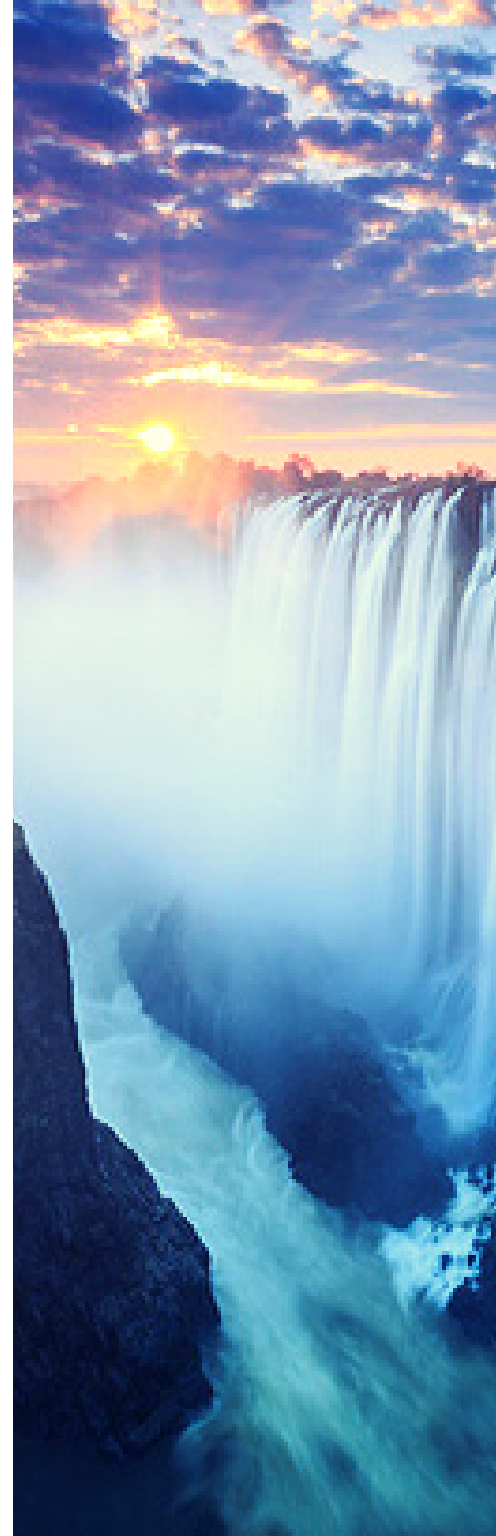
## **DAY 10 & 11 - Chobe to Victoria Falls - 2 nights' stay - Driving time approx. 2 hours and 86km distance**

Kasane in Botswana borders 3 countries: Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Each destination has its speciality and staying in Victoria Falls Town is one of your trip's highlights. Visas for Zimbabwe are easily obtained at the border and it is an easy process to take your Cruiser across into Zimbabwe, with all the correct documentation and mandatory equipment needed, provided by us. The Kasane/Victoria Falls route is part of a wildlife corridor and Victoria Falls Town itself is within a national park. Animals can and do wander freely about town, particularly Elephant, so it's important to be on the look-out for them! A tour of the Falls themselves is a "must", of course, and we would recommend the following as some of the additional activities to do, which are best booked in advance and some of which are free! Our top picks are: a visit to the Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust, whose work with community/wildlife conflict, research, sanctuary, laboratory and veterinary facilities is inspiring. For those keen to volunteer, we can arrange placements, but these must be booked well in advance.

A scenic flight over the Falls in a light aircraft, helicopter or even microlight gives an awesome perspective of the sheer magnitude of the chasm and incredible spray, depending on the amount of water. High tea or a cocktail at the historical Victoria Falls Hotel, if not staying there, with views of the Fall's spray is a wonderful way to enjoy a touch of the colonial in an iconic setting. An adrenalin activity for those up for some real adventure include: Bungy, Gorge Swings and Rafting. Lunch at the Lookout Cafe for a more relaxed gorge experience. Stays at The Elephant Camp include many of these activities in a 2 night stay.

## **DAY 10 - Victoria Falls to Nata Lodge or Elephant Sands - 1 night stay - Driving time approx. 4-5 hours and 330-385km distance**

Returning to Botswana, and looking ahead to the Makgadikgadi, it's necessary to overnight along the way to avoid a very long day of driving. This overnight stop is a chance to relax before heading out early tomorrow. At Elephant Sands you will most likely be treated to a sundowner drink whilst watching Elephant coming to the waterhole. In Nata, a trip to the Nata Bird Sanctuary if arriving early enough will give you your first glimpse of the salt pans.





### **DAY 11 & 12 - Nata Lodge or Elephant Sands to Makgadikgadi Salt Pans - 2 nights' stay - Driving time approx 2-3 hours and 105-160km distance**

This final part of your Botswana adventure takes you to one of the country's less known, yet most incredible regions within the Kalahari ecosystem: the Salt Pans of the Makgadikgadi. The ancient super lakes, now mainly dry, except in Summer rains (December-March), are unique. Whilst wildlife is mainly on the periphery, where lush grasses grow to attract Africa's second largest migration during the Summer and wetland bird species during the dry Winter months, it's possible to track across the Pans on quadbikes and even camp overnight.

However, a highlight available year-round is time spent with the Meerkats. These engaging and entertaining creatures happily scurry and forage whilst you walk with them. They may even use you as a look-out post! Other activities, depending on the itinerary chosen include: quadbikes (seasonally available), village tour of Gweta, interpretive walk with the Bushmen, Baobab walk and traditional cattle post tour. This destination is popular with everyone!

### **DAY 13 - Makgadikgadi Salt Pans to Khumaga - 1 night - Driving time approx. 3-5 hours and 128-178km distance**

Today you have the option of going through the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park or along the tar road. The Park drive will take longer, taking you through some beautiful landscape, hopefully with some game to be seen along the way. Zebra are frequently moving in and out of the area in search of the best grazing and water as well as other desert-adapted species. If opting for the tar road route, you would possibly have time for a final activity before departing the Pans and will likely fit in an afternoon drive on the very western side of the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park. This night allows for a break in the journey before heading to the final region of the Central Kalahari Game Reserve.

### **DAY 14, 15 & 16 - Khumaga to Central Kalahari Game Reserve - 3 nights' stay - Driving time approx. 7 hours and 251km distance**

The Central Kalahari is one of Africa's best known, yet least visited destinations. Home to a surprising number of animals and birds, the experience here is always extraordinary and sometimes a bit of a challenge! In parts, the terrain can be thick with the fine Kalahari sands. You will be grateful for the knowledge obtained during Driver Training and for the equipment on hand, should you hit a very soft patch. In the rains, some routes become impassable, but alternatives will have been discussed with you during your briefing. Whilst this is one of the most remote areas in Botswana, our 24/7 contact system gives peace of mind at all times.



In spite of the potentially more difficult driving, your time spent in the CKGR (as us locals fondly refer) is going to leave you with unforgettable memories. Wide open Kalahari plains, dotted with Oryx, Wildebeest, Springbok and Ostrich. Where there is an abundance of game, the famous Black-Maned Lion will not be far away. At night time, their echoing calls reach for miles in this vast, open wilderness and star-covered skies illuminate the grasslands. Absolutely breathtaking. For photographers and artists, the Kalahari offers the perfect subject. Early morning lights and sunsets here are particularly dramatic. Whilst deserts are known mainly for being hostile environments, when Summer rains come and grasses grow, the desert grasslands spring to life and are transformed into an emerald carpet with brightly coloured flowers. A paradise for the herbivores, predators are inevitably attracted by the plentiful numbers that gather at this time.

### **DAY 17 - Central Kalahari Game Reserve to Maun - Driving time approx. 6 hours and 210km distance**

Your final drive out of the Park at dawn as the sun rises above the horizon, will quite likely include encounters with some special Desert animals. This can be a long day's driving and you may think of spending a night in Maun tonight in order to ensure reaching Maun before dark. We hope you had a fantastic time in Botswana, enjoying one of the most active and adventurous safaris possible. We are sure we will see you again to show you other parts of this wonderful region!



# Included & Excluded

Rate	Vehicle	Campsite Booking Fee	Meals, Drinks & Laundry	Included Additional Activities
Camping	Fully Equipped	Yes	No	Chobe River Boat Cruise
Mixed Accommodation	Fully Equipped	Yes	As indicated in Lodge Descriptions	Chobe River Boat Cruise
Luxury Lodge	Standard Equipment	Not Applicable	Fully Inclusive Basis in Lodges Not for transfers/between Lodges	Professionally Guided Activities as indicated in Lodge Descriptions

Please note:

- This itinerary serves as a guideline only. All accommodation is on an "as available basis"
- Lodge descriptions will be included in detailed itinerary. Activities, meals, drinks and laundry services vary between lodges and will be advised in detailed itinerary
- Government Fees subject to change
- Routes may be altered dependent on accommodation availability, road conditions, as recommended by the company and partners for the safety, comfort & enjoyment of passengers and welfare of vehicles
- For full Terms & Conditions, please contact us





# Vehicle & Equipment

## Toyota Landcruiser Double Cab

- **Model:** Land cruiser (79 series)
- **Type:** Double cab
- **Drivetrain:** 4X4
- **Engine Capacity:** 4.2L diesel and 4L V6 petrol
- **Vehicle Length:** 5150mm
- **Vehicle Width:** 1700mm
- **Vehicle Height:** 1830mm
- **Fuel & Long Range Tank Capacity:** 130L + 40L
- **ABS:** Yes
- **Airbags:** Yes
- **Transmission:** Manual
- **Power Steering:** Yes
- **Seats:** 4/5
- **Fuel Consumption (on-road):** 7km/litre (approx.)
- **Fuel Consumption (off-road):** 5km/litre (approx.)
- **Windows:** Electric
- **Air Conditioning:** Yes
- **Snorkel:** Yes
- **Spare Wheels:** Two
- **Sat Phone:** Included
- **Satellite Navigation:** Included (preloaded with Tracks4Africa)
- **Fully Equipped:** Yes / Optional
- **Camping Equipment:** Yes with equipped vehicle
- **Fridge:** Yes 40 litre
- **Rooftop Tents (each sleeps 2):** One (double optional)
- **Tents:** Ground Dome Tent (optional)

## Vehicle Only Standard Equipment List

### RECOVERY EQUIPMENT

- Hi-Lift Jack
- Bottle Jack
- Set of Spanners
- Tyre Pressure Gauge
- Tyre Repair Kit
- Warning Triangles
- Spare Rope
- Tow Strap
- Wheel Spanner
- Jacking Block
- Axe
- Jumper Leads
- Sand Ladders
- Spade

### OTHER EQUIPMENT

- 12V - 220v Power Supply
- 12v Charger (Cigarette Lighter)
- GPS Navigation System
- 12v Compressor
- Satellite Phone
- Engel Fridge/Freezer 40L
- 75L Water Tank
- Spare Tyres
- Yellow Safety Vest
- Fire Extinguisher

### CANVAS BAG

- Thermos Flask
- Table Cloth
- Dinner Plates
- Soup Bowls
- Coffee Mugs
- Metal Wine Goblets
- Metal Tumblers

### CUTLERY CONTAINER

- Table Knives
- Table Forks
- Dessert Spoons
- Tea Spoons
- Chairs
- Table

## Fully Equipped Vehicles Additional items

### ROOFTOP TENT (sleeps 2)

- Rooftop Tent & Cover
- Mattress & Mattress Cover
- Sleeping Bags
- Blankets
- Pillows & Pillowcases
- Towels

### GROUND DOME TENT (sleeps 2)

- Bedroll with Mattress
- Sleeping Bag
- Blanket
- Pillow & Pillowcases
- Towels

### CAMPING EQUIPMENT

- Braai / BBQ Grill
- Cool Box
- Food Containers
- Gas Bottle (with key)
- Ground Sheet
- Dust Pan & Brush
- Plug-in 220v Light
- Hand Basin
- Dishwashing Basin

### COOKING BOX

- Chopping Board
- Colander
- Cooker Head
- Oven Gloves
- Frying Pan
- Kettle
- Cast Iron Pot
- Braai Tongs

### UTENSILS CONTAINER

- Bread Knife
- Bottle Opener/Corkscrew
- Chopping Knife
- Draining Spoon
- Egg Lifter
- Long Fork
- Potato Masher
- Scissors
- Serving Spoons
- Tin Opener
- Wooden Spoon



