

Kalahari Mobile Migration Safari

Maun to Maun

Authentic Camp Migration & Lodge Safari

Details

Duration: 7 Nights / 8 Days
Routing: Maun to Maun
Accommodation: 1 Night Tau Pan Camp <https://www.kwando.co.bw/tau-pan>
6 Nights Serviced Camping in meru style en-suite tents on a mobile migration safari

Itinerary overview

- 1 Night **Tau Pan Camp** a great first night in Botswana including light aircraft transfer Maun to Tau Pan
- 3 Nights serviced camping in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve
- 3 Nights serviced camping in the Makgadikgadi National Park in search of the Makgadikgadi Pans zebra migration
- 1 hour heli scenic Zebra Migration flight



Highlights

Tau Pan Camp

Tau Pan is the first semi-permanent camp inside the Central Kalahari Game Reserve and offers truly incredible views from the elevated ridge of an ancient sand dune, an unusual experience in a land as flat as Botswana, and overlooks the famous Tau Pan - recognised for its stark beauty and remoteness.

‘Tau’ which means lion in Setswana, is so named for the pride of iconic black-maned Kalahari lions who frequent the camp - with a particular preference for the family tent!

Species that can be found in the Kalahari include oryx, the desert-adapted springbok, jackals, the rare brown hyena, red-crested Korhaan and herds of wildebeest.



The Central Kalahari Game Reserve

The CKGR was established in 1961 by the British Government to protect the traditional way of life of the nomadic San Bushman tribes. The park covers an area of 52800 square kilometres and makes up an 11th of Botswana’s total land area making it the second largest game reserve in the world, the first being the Selous Game Reserve in Tanzania covering 54 000 km². The CKGR is a scrub desert with almost no surface water available.

Home to the famous “Kalahari Lions” the area has healthy populations of cheetah, brown hyena, gemsbok, springbok, giraffe, wildebeest, bat eared fox and the tenacious honey badger.

A landscape with endless horizons, the early evening air is dominated by the never ending calls of the Kalahari barking geckos.



Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

The Makgadikgadi zebra migration moves east away from the Boteti River into the huge open grasslands of the Makgadikgadi Pans after our first good rains. Our camp will be erected in the grasslands just north - west of the expansive Ntwetwe Pans or further north at Baines Baobabs or Nxai Pan.

The salt pans cover an area of over 16 000km² in the Kalahari Basin and form the bed of the ancient Lake Makgadikgadi which evaporated millions of years ago.

Although Nxai Pan was once part of the great super lake, it is quite different to the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans as it boasts broad hectares of short sweet grasslands with occasional “islands” of trees. The rich grassland provides good grazing and attracts springbok, impala, gemsbok, giraffe, kudu, hartebeest, zebra, wildebeest, all followed by lions and hyena, as well as a wide array of birdlife. The grasslands of the Makgadikgadi hide small colonies of meerkats that have become habituated to people and provide a few hours of rewarding interaction. Baines Baobabs, a cluster of seven Baobab trees are located within the park. The Baobabs were painted by Thomas Baines when he passed through travelling with John Chapman in 1862.



Your safari includes

- Light aircraft transfer to Tau Pan Camp
- 1 Night Tau Pan Camp (DB&B)
- 6 Nights Serviced Mobile Migration Safari in Meru Style Tents with en-suite facilities
- A 1 hour Helicopter Migration scenic flight
- Comfortable walk-in tented accommodation in a meru style tent with built in floors and mosquito gauze at windows and entrance. Beds are comfortable and include all bed linen and a towel
- En-suite bathrooms with a bucket shower and bush loo
- Licensed and experienced professional guide for the duration of your safari

- Game drives and local transfers in custom made game drive vehicles
- All entrance and camping fees within the National Parks & Game Reserves
- Private wilderness campsites
- All meals & selected drinks (wine, beer, Gin & Tonic, Coke, Coke Lite, fruit juice, bottled water)
- Dedicated safari team including cook, camp assistants and back up driver
- Bathroom amenities (soap, shampoo and insect repellent)
- Medical evacuation insurance with Okavango Air Rescue to Maun
- All activities as specified in the itinerary



Your safari excludes

- International & domestic or charter flights and airport departure taxes & visas
- Visas (these are guests own responsibility to check and organise)
- Laundry
- Travel, cancellation and medical insurance (compulsory on all safaris)
- Optional safari extensions
- Spirits (other than Gin)
- Items of a personal nature
- PCR tests (if required)
- Tips and gratuities – see our suggested guidelines on the “Useful Information” page on our website

Detailed Itinerary – Maun to Maun

Day 1: Arrival and light aircraft transfer to Tau Pan Camp (lodge)

Upon arriving in Maun – guests will be met by a Moremi Air representative who will check you in for your light aircraft transfer into Tau Pan Camp. On arrival at Tau Pan our guide will welcome you at the airstrip. After settling into your rooms, the afternoon will be spent on game drive discovering what makes the Kalahari so special. Dinner will be serviced in camp and then you can relax around the campfire and reflect on the day gone by.

Day 2 & 3 & 4: Serviced Camping in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve - CKGR

After breakfast we depart on a nature walk before saying goodbye to Tau Pan Camp where we depart for the CKGR. Most of the scenery en-route to CKGR is cattle country and dry savannah bush. We will spend the next three nights in the CKGR. After approx. 2 hours driving from Tau Pan, the vegetation changes and small dry pans (open areas) appear and at then the land falls gradually away to Deception Valley. The valleys in the Kalahari are extinct river valleys that occurred millions of years ago and are now covered in short dry grass. After a little rainfall the grass turns green offering the wildlife much needed nutrition. We explore areas like Deception Valley, Passarge Valley, Sundays Pans and Letiahau. To get a better idea of this unique ecosystem we recommend you read “Cry of the Kalahari” by Mark and Delia Owens. A fiercely beautiful but hostile environment - the CKGR will creep into your soul and for many months after your visit you will yearn to return.



Day 5 & 6 & 7: Serviced Camping in the Makgadikgadi National Park

We pack and move camp east to the huge expansive grasslands of the Makgadikgadi Pans in search of the huge numbers of zebra (up to 25000 animals) that leave the Boteti river system and concentrate on the open grasslands in search of nutritious grasses to give birth to their young. Despite their numbers they can be elusive and we spend the next three nights in search of the herds and exploring this vast open landscape. A scenic flight by helicopter is included in the safari in search of the Zebra Migration.



Day 7: Safari Ends in Maun

Following our customary early morning breakfast and early game drive we say goodbye to our back up team and camp staff and drive back to Maun. You will arrive in Maun around noon in time for outbound flights or for your onward arrangements.



DISCLAIMER: Although we make every effort to adhere to the details of this itinerary and the listed activities, these are subject to change due to changing local conditions and factors outside of our control such as the weather and the condition of the roads, as well as availability. In the event of any necessary changes, we will always keep you informed.

Safari rates are subject to National Park fees increases imposed by the Botswana Government without prior notice.

A Typical Day on Safari

The safari day starts as the sun rises. Your wake-up call will be between 5am and 6am - a gentle “koko” (knock-knock in Setswana) at the entrance to your tent. A camp assistant will be on hand to fill your wash basin with steaming hot water, and freshly made tea and coffee will be served around the campfire.

Before the early morning game drive, a light breakfast will be offered. This will include tea, plunger coffee, juice, rusks, fruit, cereal, toast and jams – just enough to boost your energy without using up too much of the golden hours of early morning, which is one of the best times of the day to see animals. Later on, as the temperature rises, many of them will retreat to the shade before becoming active again in the late afternoon.



Having spent the morning exploring the surrounding wilderness in search of Botswana’s hidden treasures, you will return to camp for lunch under a shady tree (if the elephants have not pushed them all over!). Lunch typically consists of salads, bread (freshly baked over the campfire), cold meats and pickles. Just as the animals retreat to escape the heat of midday, we recommend that you do too. This is your chance to catch up on your reading, write about your adventures in your journal, take a siesta – or all three!

Later in the afternoon you will head out into the wilderness once more as the animals begin to feed and drink again. As the sun dips below the horizon, marvel at the sheer splendour of an African sunset and toast the beauty of Nature. This is best done with the traditional sundowner choice: a G&T.

On your return to camp, enjoy a starlit hot shower and then gather around the warmth of the campfire to relive the day’s events with your fellow adventurers. A three-course dinner accompanied by South African wines is served beneath the magical canopy of the African night sky. Listen carefully and you may hear lions roaring, hyaenas whooping – or smaller creatures rustling in the leaves nearby... We can confidently say that Botswana beef is the best in the world – and our slow-cooked potjie is just as delicious. And that’s before we even mention our mouth-watering desserts.



Retreating to the comfort of your tent after enjoying a nightcap around the campfire and fall asleep to the calls of the African wild. Good night and sleep tight!



When travelling between campsites from Deception Valley to Makgadikgadi Pans, we choose routes through wildlife areas wherever possible which means that each transfer is really an extended game drive. A picnic lunch will be served at a suitably scenic spot en-route.



The only "eco certified" mobile safari in Botswana confirming our commitment to sustainable and responsible travel

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