



# RIDE WORLD WIDE BOTSWANA

RIDE BOTSWANA, OKAVANGO AND DESERT & DELTA 2026

## RIDE INFORMATION

Ride Botswana, is owned and run by Robyn & David Foot, who have been operating horse safaris in southern Africa for more than 35 years. Initially based in Malawi, in 2008 they moved to Botswana where they have been running highly personalised, small group riding safaris ever since. Ride Botswana's riding safari options in the Okavango Delta include semi-mobile camping safaris, using a lightweight movable camp as base and safaris that use the lovely Cha Cha Metsi camp as a comfortable more permanent Delta base. The latter can be combined with 3 nights in the Kalahari desert to make a 'Delta & Desert' safari - see our separate information for more details.



## OVERVIEW OF THE DELTA

The Okavango Delta region covers close to 15,000 square kilometres. Roughly one third, the central and eastern side stretching to Chobe National Park, has been designated a protected area, the Moremi Game Reserve. The rest is sub-divided into huge unfenced private wildlife concessions, all very carefully monitored and managed with strict guest quotas to help protect and preserve the natural environment for wildlife. The terrain over the whole region varies from the permanent water of the Okavango River (which joins the Delta to its northwest), papyrus swamps, reed beds and flat, open floodplain to thickly wooded date palm islands, riverine woodland and forests of mopane trees. Depending on the time of year, on rain that has fallen locally and in the River's main catchment area, the Angolan Highlands, 500 kms to the north, the floodplains (which look rather like a grassy fairway on a golf course when not flooded) may be covered with a layer of surface water ranging from a few inches to several feet deep in places. When rain in Angola flows into the Okavango River as it journeys south, the river gradually swells; then, as it meets the dry Kalahari basin, it divides like fingers on a hand into narrower waterways, spreading, saturating and flooding out over once-dry grassland to form marshy swamp and water meadow. Flood levels tend to be cyclical - a number of years of high water followed by a number of years of low. Usually new water arrives in the main Delta region between late March and July each year, and subsides from August to October.

## DATES

7 night semi-mobile Okavango Delta Rides and 8 night Delta & Desert Rides (combining 5 nights in the Okavango Delta with 3 nights in the Kalahari Desert) are run from set dates. Safaris based at Cha Cha Metsi camp (minimum 3 nights) and in the Kalahari (3 nights) can be arranged on request. Please see set dates overleaf and contact Ride World Wide to discuss your plans and availability.

## HORSES

Ride Botswana owns about 40 horses, kept either at their base near Maun, at Cha Cha Metsi or in the Kalahari. Most are crossbreeds, between about 14.1hh and 16.2hh and they include South African Boerperd / TB crosses, Shire / TB crosses, Arab crosses, Quarterhorse crosses and some Appaloosa crosses. All are well-schooled, very well cared for, responsive and enjoyable to ride. They are also calm and sensible to handle, used to game and at home in the bush.

## TACK

Saddles are 'Maclellans' (a 'cavalry type' cross between English and Western style - comfortable for both horse and rider for long hours), or English Wintecs. Saddle bags are provided for personal belongings where necessary.



## RIDING

Riding is in groups of 8 guests maximum (accompanied by a guide and back-up rider), although Cha-Cha Metsi and Camp Kalahari sleep a total of 12 and 16 guests respectively. Safaris normally include between 3 and 5 hours in the saddle each day, broken up with stops for refreshments and lunch, but this is flexible - riding hours, routes and itineraries always vary according to water levels, weather, game and as far as possible guest wishes. On Okavango Delta Rides days on safari may include a guided walk or (water level allowing) an outing in a mokoro canoe; at Cha Cha Metsi or Camp Kalahari there will be a ride or other game viewing activity in the early morning and another late afternoon, with game drives, walks and (in the Kalahari) cultural visits options instead of riding. Riding is normally early morning when game is most active, returning to the camp for lunch or stopping for a picnic en-route, before riding again, or perhaps exploring on foot or, water level allowing, by mokoro later in the afternoon. Riding groups are lead by an experienced licenced guide accompanied by a back-up rider. On Okavango Delta Rides, when the camp is moved ahead, luggage and equipment is moved separately, either by back-up vehicle or by mokoro canoe.

## WEIGHT LIMIT

95 kgs (15 stone) but please contact us if you are close to this so we can check suitable horses are available.

## PACE

The riding pace varies with the going underfoot and, in the Delta, with water levels. On the Delta section of all safaris, there will be good chances to trot and canter, particularly on morning rides, although the emphasis is on exploration and watching game in a serene environment, rather than fast riding. Afternoon rides in the Delta are always slower, at a walk and trot, to make the most of the light for game viewing and photography - overall in the Delta expect a varied but relaxed, leisurely riding pace. In the Kalahari, the going underfoot is sand, which is usually firm, and the landscape is very open. With no boundaries, there is often plenty of scope for fast riding here, always depending on rider ability and again, afternoon rides are generally at a slow, leisurely pace.

## RIDING EXPERIENCE

Riding on all safaris is aimed at reasonably competent, confident riders and you should be of at least a good 'intermediate' standard to take part. It is important to remember that you will be riding in remote, unfenced areas where game (including potentially dangerous game such as elephant and lion) wanders freely. To take part it is *essential* you are comfortable and balanced on a well-schooled horse at all paces (including long trots and canters). You should also be used to riding in open country and able to control your horse independently when riding out with a group. Terrain in the Delta can change quickly and it is important you are secure in the saddle and confident on a variety of ground which may include deep water channels it is necessary to ford, thickly wooded islands and open, unfenced flood or desert plains. Accompanied children who are strong, competent riders, are accepted at Ride Botswana's discretion. Generally the minimum age is 12-14 years but younger riders may occasionally be taken by arrangement. In all cases, riding fitness is important and if you do not ride regularly at home, you should accustom yourself to the time in the saddle with concentrated practice before you go. Non-riders (or riders with sufficient experience but who only wish to ride some of the time) are very welcome at Cha-Cha Metsi and the Kalahari camps, with game drive vehicles and other activities on offer.



## TERRAIN

If you join an Okavango Delta Ride, the riding route will normally start by the buffalo fence which marks the Delta's southern boundary. The first day's riding is then usually through fairly open grassland, with sandy tracks, low scrub acacia and some mopane woodland. As you get deeper into the Delta, the scenery is characterised by large 'islands' of palm, mopane and bigger leadwood and marula trees, separated by floodplain - flat grassland that may be covered by a few inches of water - and deeper winding waterways, bordered by thick reed-beds, which flow into large permanent lagoons. Cha-Cha Metsi is about 2 hours' drive from Maun and an hour or so past the buffalo fence. The camp overlooks the permanent water of the Gama Tau Lagoon, which is part of the Santantadibe River and has access to all the 'typical' Delta scenery - floodplain, mopane and other woodland, palms islands and seasonal water channels. Camp Kalahari, usual base for the desert section of Delta & Desert Rides, is in the Makgadikgadi Pans of the Kalahari Desert, an area quite unlike anywhere else in Africa! In the centre of the Pans, limitless flatness, with no visual landmarks, stretches in every direction. You can find yourself in a vast 'moonscape', making it easy to lose your sense of perspective. In the dry season, the sand is firm and bare; when the Pans fill with water, they draw in thousands of zebra and wildebeest and large flocks of flamingos. Grassland bordering the Pans is criss-crossed with a network of sandy wildlife paths and palm-covered dunes form a chain of islands on the ancient lake-bed. Away from the Pans and around the camp itself, palm trees and thicker mopane and acacia woodland is interspersed with grassland.



## GAME

The Delta has huge numbers of animals year-round and is a wild, unfenced and unspoiled environment for game viewing. Some game species are permanent residents (antelope such as the characteristic water antelope - red lechwe - sable, roan and sitatunga, water lovers such as hippo and crocodile and many of the larger predators) moving around locally as water levels rise and fall; others migrate inwards from the drier Kalahari borders and move around as water levels change. Unlike in East Africa, there is no single mass-herd migration, with game such as elephant, giraffe, zebra and wildebeest wandering through year-round in mid-sized herds, social or family groups. During any Delta safari you can usually expect to see good numbers of zebra, wildebeest and giraffe, many species of antelope such as impala, perhaps if lucky, kudu, roan, reedbuck, lechwe and tsessebe, and also crocodiles, monkeys, baboons and warthogs. You should also see elephant and buffalo, often in large breeding herds, and again if lucky may see sitatunga, hyena, jackal and lion and perhaps even leopard, cheetah or the endangered wild dog. The Delta is famous for birds with over 400 recorded species - fish eagles, cranes, storks, vultures, kingfishers, ostrich, jacanas, bee eaters and many more. It is generally considered one of the world's finest game viewing area because of the density and variety of game but also because it is such an unspoilt pristine environment for wildlife. However it is important to remember that animals are free to roam across a vast, unfenced area, there may be more of one species than another in a particular place at a particular time and environmental factors such as long grass or high water can (and do) affect game viewing. If game takes cover in long grass, mopane scrub or amongst date palms on the islands, it can be hard to spot or follow safely - although with access to boats and on some safaris vehicles as well as horses, you have a good chance of seeing a wonderful variety of game during any visit. The Kalahari is a harsh environment for game but between January and April (the 'wet' or 'green' season), numbers increase dramatically and it sees southern Africa's biggest (and last surviving) zebra and wildebeest migration. The water also attracts wonderful birdlife including huge flocks of flamingos. During the dry season, when migrating game disperses, there is still a chance to see desert-adapted game such as springbok, gemsbok and red hartebeest, meerkats, monkeys and baboons, nocturnal game such as brown hyena, bat eared fox, aardvark, aardwolf, porcupine and honey badgers as well as numerous birds that include rare koorhans, huge bustards and other birds of prey. The famous black maned Kalahari lions, some of the biggest in Africa, are also occasionally seen and often heard at night.



## GUIDES & SAFETY

David is a professionally qualified guide with over 35 years' experience and has lead safaris all over southern Africa. He aims to personally guide many (but **not** all) Okavango Delta Rides and is an incredibly knowledgeable safari companion who is also always fun and easy going. Where he does not lead a safari himself and when staying at Cha Cha Metsi or in the Kalahari, guests ride with one of his personally trained, qualified and licensed local guide. All guides are first aid trained and carry a basic first aid kit in saddle-bags, with more comprehensive kits kept at the camps. A satellite 'phone and / or hand-held radio for communication is also always carried. All guests are covered by Okavango Air Rescue helicopter evacuation service.

## ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation varies with the safari you choose. On Okavango Delta Rides, nights are in a lightweight safari camp, carefully located for views and shade, that can be moved if required. It is usually re-located at least once during a 7 night safari and sometimes more often, although this **always** depends on game, the local riding environment and water levels (which impact logistics). The camp is deliberately kept simple so it can be packed up and moved, but it has everything you need to be comfortable. Spacious walk-in 2 man dome tents for sleeping, comfortable stretcher beds (with duvets, pillows and blankets); a wash basin outside each tent (with hot water for washing provided each morning and evening after riding); shared 'short-drop' loos and shared bucket and pulley showers (usually one shower and one loo between 2 tents / 4 guests). The camp also has chairs and tables for meals, kerosene and solar lamps for lighting and extras such as torches, soap, towels and ice for drinks. You will be very well looked after, yet camps retain the wonderful feeling of 'temporariness' in remote wilderness. When moving, luggage and equipment is transported by vehicle or if water level allows, by local polers in mokoro canoes.



**Cha Cha Metsi** is a privately owned, semi-permanent camp, sleeping up to 12 guests in 6 spacious walk-in safari 'suites' which are all raised on decking and carefully spaced for views out to the lagoon. Two of the tents are family style suites and have a central bed area, a bathroom area to one side (with flush loo, bath and shower) and a second sleeping area with extra bed to the other side. The other four tents (upgraded in early 2025) have the bathroom area to the back and to one side, instead of an extra bed, have a covered deck with small plunge pool.



## ACCOMMODATION cont

The camp has a comfortable sitting / dining area, furnished and decorated with family antiques by owner Marieke Niven to give the feeling of a home. It is run to a 'green' footprint with sustainability aims that include working to benefit the local community.



**Camp Kalahari** is another luxurious base with large walk-in sleeping tents set on platforms under thatch rooves, each with a very spacious attached bathroom with shower and flush loo. There are big central dining and sitting areas, with sofas, armchairs and a long table for meals, as well as a separate thatched pool house and plunge pool for hot Kalahari days. Rates assume two sharing and varying single supplements are charged for single occupancy (see details overleaf).



## MEALS

Safaris include three delicious meals a day and snacks to keep you going in between. On Okavango Delta Rides, breakfast at sunrise is around the campfire and usually includes fruit, cereal, porridge, toast or eggs and bacon for those who wish. In the 'fixed' camps a snack breakfast of cereal or fruit and toast is usually served at sunrise before your morning ride or other activity with a substantial cooked brunch or lunch available in camp when you return. Lunches include plenty of freshly prepared salads, freshly baked bread, perhaps quiches, pizza, cold meat and fresh fruit. There is usually a home-made cake at teatime and dinners are substantial three-courses, cooked over the log fire and served at a long table under the stars if on a mobile, or perhaps in the camp dining areas in 'fixed' camps. Dinner is preceded by drinks; tea, coffee and a varied bar with a selection of spirits, wine, beer and soft drinks (with ice) are all included.



## WEATHER & SEASONS

Summer months in Botswana are September to April and it is generally hottest from October to February, with midday temperatures up to about 38C or sometimes 40C. The area experiences summer rain - the rainy season is usually December to February although there can be thunderstorms and rain showers in October and November, when it can be humid in the build up to season rain. The coolest winter months, when it is also dry (no rain) are May to August with daytime temperatures usually in the mid 20s C. During these months and in May and September, it can be cold in the early mornings and evenings (sometimes dropping below 5 degrees C), but even in the coldest months days are normally sunny and warm. Confusing to many, the dry winter months are when the Delta has its seasonal flood - caused when rain that has fallen a few months before in the Angolan Highlands, flows down the Okavango River causing the river to flood out over the Delta region.

## WHAT TO BRING

We will send you a list when your booking is confirmed.

## ITINERARY

There is no set itinerary for safaris and each one will be different. Riding routes aim to provide the best riding and game viewing experience although what you see and where you ride always varies with water level, wildlife movements, weather and other local conditions. When staying at Cha Cha Metsi and Camp Kalahari there is usually lots of flexibility with activities organised as far as possible to suit. The following are example itineraries:-

### Okavango Delta Ride - 7 night example itinerary:

**Day 1** Meet your guide at Maun Airport (the set safari meeting time is usually early afternoon) and after meeting up with other guests, driven around an hour to the buffalo fence which marks the southern end of the Okavango Delta. Meet the horses and back up team here and, whilst luggage is loaded onto a vehicle or mokoro canoe to be transported to camp, mount up and set off riding into the Delta. Arrive at the camp in time for sundowners, hot showers and a delicious bush dinner, cooked over a log fire. (D)



## ITINERARY CONT

**Days 2 to 7** Six full days to explore the Delta. Each day's timetable will vary with weather, water level, movement of game and group wishes - but typically days start with an early wake-up call and light campfire breakfast as day breaks. Then you might mount up to ride along game trails away from the camp, crossing open floodplain and palm covered islands tracking wildlife and enjoying the prolific bird life. After about 3-4 hours riding, stopping for a snack and leg-stretch en-route, return to camp for a leisurely lunch and siesta in the shade. Then after tea at about 4pm ride out again at a gentle pace to enjoy the evening light. On some days, in the afternoon you might swap horses for (if the water level allows) mokoro canoes to explore the Delta's waterways in the traditional manner or head out with your guide on foot for a different perspective on the bush. One day you may ride to a new camp location, heading out early morning, stopping in the shade for a bush lunch before riding on in the late afternoon to find camp set up in a new spot by the back-up team. Hot showers in camp each evening, drinks around the fire and dinner under the stars. Nights camping out in a lightweight mobile camp (B,L,D)

**Day 8** An early breakfast before packing up and mounting up for the final time. A long ride back to the buffalo fence, where you are met by the backup team with your luggage. Group transfer back to Maun airport, usually at about midday, for your onward travel. (B)



### **Cha Cha Metsi - Camp based 5 night example itinerary:**

**Day 1** Met at Maun Airport and either set on a drive of about 2 hours to Cha Cha Metsi or meet the helicopter that will fly you the 20 mins or so to the camp. When you arrive, shown to your tents and after settling in and a cup of tea, those arriving by helicopter usually have time to meet the horses and for a first ride out or another safari activity for a first view of the area around camp. If you take a vehicle transfer to camp, you may arrive too late to go out that afternoon but will be able to relax in the comfortable camp, enjoying late afternoon Delta views. Hot showers and sundowners before dinner and the night in camp. (D)

**Days 2 to 5** Four full days to explore the Delta. The daily timetable will vary with weather, water level, movement of game and guest wishes - but typically days start with an early wake-up call and snack breakfast as day breaks. Then mount up for a morning ride heading away from the camp along elephant trails, crossing open floodplain and palm covered islands, tracking wildlife and enjoying the prolific bird life. After riding for about 3 hours (with a snack and leg-stretch break en-route), return to camp for a leisurely lunch and siesta in the shade. Then, after tea at about 4pm, ride out again or swap horses for mokoro canoes to explore the waterways around the lagoon in front of camp or head out with a guide either on foot or in a game drive vehicle, for a different perspective on the bush. After your afternoon game activity, back to camp for hot showers, drinks around the campfire and dinner. Nights Cha Cha Metsi (B,L,D)

**Day 6** An early breakfast and last ride out if you wish before packing up and meeting the helicopter or vehicle that will take you back to Maun for your onward travel. (B)



## ITINERARY CONT

### **Delta & Desert Safari (8 nights)**

**Days 1 to 5** As for the Cha Cha Metsi Ride, with 5 nights at Cha Cha Metsi camp.

**Day 6** An early breakfast and last ride out if you wish before packing up and meeting the helicopter (20 minute flight) or vehicle (about 2 hours) that will take you back to Maun. Onward travel to Camp Kalahari by charter plane (about 45 minutes) or vehicle (about 3 hours). Settle into tents at Camp Kalahari. Those arriving by charter plane should have time for a late lunch and after meeting horses at about 4.30pm, for a short introductory ride to try them and for a first view of the desert area. Guests arriving by vehicle may not have time to ride but can have tea and relax in camp, with a dip in the pool and perhaps time to head out by vehicle for a sundowner as the sun goes down behind the palms. Return to camp for hot showers, drinks, a lovely dinner and night in camp. (B,D)



**Day 7** Woken with a cup of tea or coffee and a light breakfast, before mounting up to ride out in search of some of the Kalahari's most fascinating inhabitants, the meerkats. Stop close to a colony of meerkats where you might tether the horses and walk into the middle of the group - an ongoing habituation program run by Uncharted Africa, which owns Camp Kalahari, means you can get up close and personal with these captivating creatures - although remember they are not tame, just used to non-threatening human presence. If the morning is chilly, you might find a meerkat snuggling up to you for warmth or, in the absence of a termite mound or tree, using your head as a sentry lookout post... As the day warms up, leave the meerkats to their foraging, mount up and follow game tracks that lead to resident herds of zebra and congregations of ostrich attracted by the permanent freshwater in hidden waterholes. Return to Camp Kalahari for lunch, a shower and siesta in the shade. After tea, head off by vehicle to see some unique desert species such as springbok, gemsbok, and red hartebeest - these consummate desert specialists survive in arid areas where both food and water are scarce. Using a spotlight on the game drive back to camp search for nocturnal desert inhabitants such as aardvark, bat eared fox, aardwolf, porcupine, honey badgers and perhaps even a black maned Kalahari lion. Dinner and night Camp Kalahari. (B,L,D)

**Day 8** Up with the dawn and a light breakfast before a long morning ride through the 'land of a thousand islands' a chain of palm-covered sand dunes on the ancient lake-bed. The white encrusted pans between the islands provide fantastic going for horses and for fun and exhilarating riding. Return to camp for lunch and a rest whilst it is hot, with time to relax under the shady thatch or sweeping camel thorns or cool off in the camp swimming pool. Tea, then an evening ride or head off by vehicle to look for elusive and timid brown hyaena, a solitary forager, rarely seen by humans, but a very social animals, living in clans of up to 10 to 12 animals. Return to camp after dark with a spotlight. Dinner and night in camp. (B,L,D)

**Day 9** Early wake up and morning ride out perhaps to a traditionally built Bushmen village where elders of the Zu/'hoasi Bushmen community will welcome you. A chance to walk out into the bush with the men, women and children of this community is a fascinating experience and opportunity to learn how these extraordinary people have survived in this harshest of environments. Ride back to camp for brunch and to pack up for the journey back to Maun by private charter (45 mins) or vehicle (3 hours) and your onward flight connection in Maun. (B, L)



## DATES & RATES 2026

Please note that safari rates are quoted in USD. The sterling price will be the equivalent sterling rate using the USD/sterling exchange rate in force when you book/pay.

### 7 night Okavango Delta Ride:

7th to 14th March	11th to 18th July	14th to 21st November
16th to 23rd March	20th to 27th July	23rd to 30th November
1st to 8th April	15th to 22nd August	12th to 19th December
11th to 18th April	24th to 31st August	
2nd to 9th May	12th to 19th September	
11th to 18th May	21st to 28th September	
24th to 31st May	10th to 17th October	
13th to 20th June	19th to 26th October	

### Rates are seasonal:

January to March & December - USD 5550 per person sharing;

April to June & November - USD 6565 per person sharing;

July to October - USD 7370 per person sharing;

Set time vehicle transfers from / to Maun on first and last day (at least 2 sharing) **included**.

Supplement for single occupancy of tent if not prepared to share - USD 980



## DATES & RATES cont.

### 8 night Delta & Desert Safari (5 nights Cha Cha Metsi / 3 nights Camp Kalahari:

7th to 14th January	29th April to 7th May	6th to 14th October
23rd to 31st January	14th to 22nd May	27th October to 4th November
1st to 9th February	18th to 26th June	22nd to 30th November
17th to 25th February	21st to 29th July	7th to 15th December
28th February to 8th March	4th to 12th August	24th December to 1st January
17th to 25th March	18th to 26th August	
29th March to 6th April	1st to 9th September	
22nd to 30th April	22nd to 30th September	

### Rates are seasonal (and EXCLUDE transfers from / to Maun - see below):

January to March - USD 8,300 per person sharing\*  
April to June & November - USD 9,295 per person sharing\*;  
July & August - USD 10,600 per person sharing\*;  
September, October & Christmas date - USD 10,195 per person sharing\*;  
November - USD 8,645 per person sharing\*;  
December (except Christmas safari) - USD 9,265 per person sharing\*;

### Transfers from Maun (all based on at least 2 sharing) - please re-confirm rate when booking:

Helicopter Maun / Cha Cha Metsi and charter flight Maun / Kalahari - USD 1,560 per person return;  
Vehicle Maun / Cha Cha Metsi / Maun / Kalahari / Maun – USD 710 per person  
Helicopter Maun / Cha Cha Metsi - USD 700 per person return  
Vehicle Maun / Cha Cha Metsi - USD 260 per person return

\*Supplement for single tent if not prepared to share (please confirm when booking as some safaris straddle seasons) - Jan, Feb, March - USD 1000; April to June - USD 2561; July, August - USD 3070; September, October - USD 2911; November - USD 2311; December - USD 2411



**NOTE** in Peak season months, July, August, September and October, the single supplement will apply to **ALL** single bookings unless there is definitely a sharer in the safari group. At other times anyone booking a single place does **not have** to pay the supplement as long as prepared to share if group numbers require (- if there is another single guest of same sex you **will** be asked to share).

## DATES & RATES cont.

**Kalahari Ride (minimum 3 nights):** Arranged on request.

Rates per person per night sharing:- between 10th January and 31st March - USD 1350;

between 1st April to 30th June and 1st September to 9th January - USD 1465;

in July and August - USD 1600.

All PLUS transfers (**not** included) - PLEASE ASK.

10% discount for groups of 4 or more booking Kalahari only (excluding transfers and supplements)

Single supplement to guarantee single tent – USD 437 per night mid-season; USD 490 per night Peak season (no supplement 10th January to 31st March).

Rates at Jacks Camp or San Camp on request (always subject to availability). Please contact us for more details and availability.

**Cha Cha Metsi tailormade (3 or more nights):** Arranged on request.

Rates per rider per night sharing:-

between 10th January to 31st March and 1st November to 9th December - USD 850;

April to June - USD 980; July to October and 10th December to 9th January 2027 - USD 1160.

All PLUS transfers from and back to Maun (**not** included) - PLEASE ASK for a quote (and see rates above).

Non-rider and child under 12yrs (sharing with parent) - discounts apply, please ask.

Single supplements to guarantee single tent - USD 200 to USD 320 per night depending on season.

Please contact us for more details and availability.

**Rates INCLUDE** all riding and other safari activities on offer within itinerary, all guiding and safari equipment, tented accommodation (twin share - single tent only if paying supplement or if otherwise available), meals (dinner first day to breakfast last), drinks on safari (a selection of soft drinks, local spirits, beer and house wine) and emergency evacuation Okavango Air Rescue cover.

Group vehicle transfers between Maun airport and the safari start point at set times are included on set date Okavango Delta Rides. On **ALL** other safaris transfers from and back to Maun must be added at additional cost (see details above). Transfer rates above assume a minimum of 2 travelling together (with a 100% surcharge for a single booking if no other travellers on the same transfer) and are subject to increases in fuel costs / changes at short notice. **Please confirm transfer prices when you book.**

**All Rates EXCLUDE** International flights to Maun and taxes, any single supplements to book single accommodation, travel from / to Maun airport (or transfers outside set times on Okavango Delta Rides), personal medical / travel insurance (which you must have with cover to ride), any visa fees, premium drinks, any personal extras on safari and any tips you may wish to leave staff.



## FLIGHTS & TRAVEL INFORMATION

Meeting for all safaris is Maun airport. Where set time transfers are included, these are generally organised to coincide with International flight arrivals from and departures to Johannesburg with meeting time for the transfer usually at around 13.00 on the first day and drop off at about 13.00 on the last. Collection / return at other times may be possible but will depend on safari logistics. It may incur an extra charge.

**International Flights** Generally the best way to travel to Maun from London is via Johannesburg in South Africa or via Addis Adaba in Ethiopia - there are no direct flights from London to Maun. You can also fly to Maun via Windhoek in Namibia, via Harare in Zimbabwe and via Gaborone in Botswana, but Johannesburg or Addis are usually the most convenient connection point.

If travelling from London via Johannesburg, you should plan to take an overnight flight to Johannesburg (British Airways and Virgin fly direct London to Johannesburg every day, leaving London at about 19.00 / 21.00 and arriving JNB at about 07.00 / 09.00. Once in Johannesburg, you need to change planes and take a South African Airlink or Air Botswana flight to Maun. These are daily with one (occasionally two) morning departures Johannesburg to Maun taking around 1 hr 40 mins. Due to connection times, to avoid an overnight stay in Johannesburg, British Airways are usually the best international carrier to use and we recommend you book the **earliest** BA evening departure from London to allow plenty of connection time (3 to 4 hours) in Johannesburg in case of flight delays. Do always check connection times carefully. On the return, daily flights from Maun to Johannesburg will connect with overnight return flights to London.

Ethiopian Airlines also have flights from London Heathrow or Gatwick via Addis to Maun which work well and are usually very competitively priced, although not every day.

**Please contact us for more flight information and to check flight times before you book.**

## GENERAL VISA & HEALTH INFORMATION

(NB this is a brief outline - further information will be sent to you if you make a confirmed booking)

**Visas** If you hold a full British Passport and are visiting Botswana for a holiday only and staying less than 30 days you do **not** need to arrange a visa in advance. Please note that there are special requirements for those travelling with children, requiring provision of birth certificates and other documents, which are strictly enforced, particularly if only one parent is accompanying.

**Health** No inoculations are legally required for Botswana but Polio, Tetanus, Typhoid and Hepatitis A are recommended and you will usually also be advised to take anti-Malaria tablets - you should consult a health professional for further and more detailed advice. If you are flying via Ethiopia, a Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate is a technical requirement for entry to Botswana, although local guidance (as of April 2025) is that this is **not** required if you are just in transit through Addis airport from Europe and do not leave the airport.

(DRAFT 12/03/2026)

