

# Okavango and Botswana Family Safari

Trip Code: FBO

Version:



MULTI ACTIVITY



FAMILY

MODERATE



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the Okavango Delta on foot and by traditional dug out canoe, and wild camp in stunning locations
- Big 5 Game Drives in the Moremi Game Reserve, possibly seeing lion, buffalo, elephant and much much more
- A truly adventurous and exciting family holiday in Botswana and Zambia, the gems of Africa

- Experience African night skies, mesmerizing wildlife and the amazing Victoria Falls

## AT A GLANCE

- 11 days sightseeing with safari game drives and short walks
- SWIMMING: 5 nights at campsites swimming pools
- Join at Maun, end in Livingstone

## ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

# Introduction

Whether you're a seasoned safari enthusiast or a first timer, this family safari adventure holiday encompasses some of the most unique and diverse game reserves and national parks Africa has to offer. Arriving in Maun we head straight to the wetland of the Okavango Delta and leave behind our vehicles to be gently poled along the water systems of the Okavango Delta in a traditional Mokoro (a dug-out canoe), where we can get up close and personal with the flora and fauna before returning to our wilderness camp for the tradition of a sundowner. Moving on from the Delta we head to the Moremi Game Reserve, which was first established by the Batawana people of Ngamiland. With an abundance of wildlife you will spend each day searching for the big five under the expert eye of your guide.

Heading for Savuti and Chobe National Park, we hope to see the largest yet sensitive of all African animals, the elephant. Famed for its huge elephant population, Chobe is wonderful environment to view these amazing creatures. For our final stop, we trade wildlife for wild water and cross into Zambia, finishing at the 'Smoke That Thunders', Victoria Falls to complete our African adventure. And what an adventure for the children it will be!

## Is this holiday for you?

### Suitable for children from 12 yrs old

Everything in Africa is on a big scale, and to cover the ground necessary your journey across Botswana includes several long drives accompanied by Africa's spectacular scenery. Such drives, including your game drives, can often be on dirt tracks, graded roads and also tar highways. The vehicles used have been custom-built to cope with such conditions. Included in the itinerary are several safari experiences on foot. These walks can be on paved surfaces or uneven sandy terrain but they are always accompanied by your experienced local KE English speaking guide. Each walk is paced with time for your guide to interpret the environment around you. On some walks in the bush, especially in the Okavango Delta, we need to keep together as a group in case of an animal encounter. When in the Okavango Delta we travel by Mokoro Canoe. These are traditional dug-out canoes and are very basic and may require walking in the shallows to board at water level. The accommodation on this journey is camping. Some are fixed tented camps and others are wilderness camping. When wilderness camping an adult must share a tent with the children. At the fixed camps there is usually a bar/restaurant available

and a swimming pool. During your holiday, some participation on day-to-day camp chores is required. Getting involved with such chores adds to the camaraderie of your holiday. This journey is suitable for the adventure traveller family looking to experience some of Africa's most special safari experiences!

# Itinerary

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Version:

## Holiday Information

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### What's Included

- A professional local guide and driver
- Single timed airport transfers on the first and last day
- All land transport involved in the itinerary
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Entry fees to the various parks and reserve areas

### What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Tips for local staff
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Entrance fees for optional excursions
- Miscellaneous expenses - drinks and souvenirs etc

### Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The group will meet at the group accommodation in Maun.

A single timed transfer (20mins) from Maun Airport to the first nights campsite is provided at lunchtime of Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary.

On the last day of the Land Only itinerary, there will be a single transfer to Livingstone Airport (Zambia) or Victoria Falls Airport (Zimbabwe). Please contact the KE office for exact details of your departure date.

Anyone may join the group transfers by prior arrangement. Travelling as a group saves energy. If this is not practical, we can provide private transfers at an additional cost.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

### Meal Plan

All breakfasts, 9 lunches and 7 dinners are included in the holiday price. There are many restaurants to choose from, and you should allow approximately \$15-20 per person for lunches and \$20-30 per person for dinners.

## Food & Water

It is not recommended to drink untreated water from the taps. You should take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) to treat your water. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

When camping the tour leaders do the shopping and meal planning. He/she will always try to obtain fresh produce wherever possible. A rough idea of what these will consist of is: Breakfast - cereals or coffee and toast or the occasional fried breakfast, Lunch - cheese, cold meats, salads on bread or rolls, Dinner - braais (local barbecue), potjies (stews), stir fries etc. We use regular plates, cups and cutlery. All cooking and eating utensils will also be provided. We do cater for some special dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian or allergies.). However it is essential that you inform us of any dietary requirements on booking. We will supply fruit squash served with breakfast and tea or coffee served with breakfast and dinner. All other beverages will be for your own expense. When meals are not included there will be a restaurant or choice of restaurants nearby. There is usually a restaurant/bar at the fixed campsites. They will have a reasonable selection of foods available.

## Accommodation

Camping - for 5 nights on safari we stay at designated campsites in national parks, on private land and in towns. Campsite facilities are generally very good but in places can be simple. There are hot and cold showers, restaurants, washing facilities and telephones available at most of the campsites. All these fixed campsites have swimming pools. Some camps in Botswana have simple reed enclosures for showers but do have flush toilets!

Wild camping - for 7 nights while in the Okavango Delta, Moremi and Chobe we camp wild. Wild camps have no facilities; we will need to take our own water and all equipment. Wild camping can be very enjoyable and please remember that we leave no trace of our stay and take all rubbish away with us. Toilets will be of the "dig and bury" variety and a simple bucket bush shower will be provided.

The tents provide are for 2 people. Young children must be accompanied by an adult in each tent. All the camping equipment is supplied, with the exception of your sleeping bag and pillow. The dome tents we use are 2.4 x 2.4 x 1.8 meters and putting them up or down takes only 5 minutes. Tents have built-in insect nets. We supply mattresses, which are about 5 cm thick, warm and comfortable. The camp chairs have a backrest.

An essential part of this holiday is the participation - from putting up your tent (while camping) or packing away in the morning to helping with meal preparation and cleaning up - it's all part of your adventure. Your tour leaders will do all the meal preparation but we do ask the clients to help with the washing up. Team spirit is part of the fun!

## Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be accompanied by a local English-speaking professional guide. During the tour the group will travel by open 4x4 Toyota Landcruiser driven by a professional driver.

## Spending Money

We estimate that a minimum of around £500-600 per family of 4 (or equivalent in euros/dollars) should be allowed for personal spending. This amount should be sufficient to cover non-included meals, visas, tips of local staff and miscellaneous expenses. If you are intending to buy expensive souvenirs or undertake any additional activities or excursions, you should budget accordingly (credit cards can be useful in this respect). Also, if you expect to buy considerable quantities of soft drinks or beer, you should make an allowance for this. You can choose to take your money in pounds Sterling, dollars or euros. There will be the opportunity to change money into local currency on arrival at Maun Airport and your local leader will advise the best places to change money en-route. Additionally, you will be able to get currency from bank ATMs in many of the towns that we will visit. Credit cards are often accepted but if you intend to bring your travel money with you, we recommend that you bring this in the form of cash. Sterling, US Dollars and Euros are readily exchanged. Not all lodges/hotels accept cards.

## Guidance on Tipping

In Southern Africa it is usual to tip staff including your local guide and driver if you are happy with the services provided. We suggest you co-ordinate these tips as a group and as a rough guide we recommend each group member contributes around £30 to £40 per person. The exact amount should be determined by the group and the guide will give advice on the appropriate levels.

## Beat the Jet Lag

Our holidays are normally designed with minimal 'down time' at the start of the trip, but having a day or two at the beginning will have the additional benefit of allowing you time to get over the stress of a long journey or travelling across time zones, leaving you refreshed and ready for your holiday. We can easily arrange for you to have additional nights and airport transfers.

## Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Your baggage will travel in the vehicle with the group, and you should try to keep the weight to no more than 23kg. You should bring a soft bag as these are more suitable to pack in the vehicle. For the 2 nights wild camping in the Okavango Delta you will take only what you need and the remainder of your luggage will stay in Maun. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

## Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in the 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

## South Africa Indemnity Form

As a member of the South African Tourism Service Association, our ground agent in South Africa may require you to complete an indemnity form at the start of your holiday, which you will need your insurance details for. As a client of KE Adventure Travel, your rights under the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangement Regulations (2018) are unaffected and KE Adventure Travel will remain liable for the actions of our suppliers.

# General Information

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## Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday.**

Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

### Visa Zambia

British passport holders do not need a visa in advance and can obtain a visa on arrival. The Government of Zambia recently announced the removal of all visa fees for British passport holders. However implementation of the policy has not yet been confirmed and British nationals may still be charged \$25 on arrival.

Other nationals should check details online to see if they need an e-visa.

**Important Note for Victoria Falls:** Please check your itinerary and your arrival/departure flights. If your accommodation and flights are from a different side of the falls you may need both a Zambian and a Zimbabwe visa. The town of Victoria Falls is in Zimbabwe, and the town of Livingstone is in Zambia.

Additionally If you visit the falls (on the border) and wish to cross the bridge to the other side you will require a visa for both countries.

A KAZA UNIVISA for Zimbabwe and Zambia is cheaper than purchasing the two visas for Zambia and Zimbabwe separately. The visa is valid for 30 days as long as you remain within Zimbabwe and Zambia. It is also valid for day trips to Botswana crossing over the Kazungula borders. It will not be valid if you overnight in Botswana.

It's available at the international airports in Lusaka and Livingstone and at the land borders at Livingstone (Zimbabwe border) and Kazungula (Botswana border). You can also apply online. It costs US\$50 and it is valid for 30 days.

**Please note:** The Government of Zambia recently announced the removal of all visa fees for British passport holders. However implementation of the policy has not yet been confirmed and British nationals may still be charged \$25 on arrival. This may affect your decision to purchase a Kaza Univisa.

UK nationals do not normally need a visa to enter Botswana for stays of up to 90 days.

### Travelling with children under 18yrs - Botswana

Parents travelling with children under 18 years will be asked to show the child's full unabridged birth certificate. If the child is travelling with one parent, with another adult or unaccompanied, the parent or parents who aren't present will need to provide an affidavit giving their consent for the child to travel. Please note that they are very strict and they do not accept photocopies of birth certificates or short versions. This is also applicable if you are transiting through Botswana. For further details please see FCO website <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/botswana/entry-requirements>

## Transit via South Africa

Rules on **travelling with children under 18 years** have been relaxed. Visa exempt children entering South Africa only need passports, and not birth certificates as previously required. This applies if the child is travelling with both parents, one parent or an adult who is not a biological parent, and school groups. There are some different requirements for unaccompanied children, and children who do not have UK passports or visa exempt passports. For full details please see the FCDO website.

## Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

## VACCINATIONS

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you specific require any vaccinations or other preventive measures. You should be up to date with routine courses and boosters as recommended in the UK e.g. diphtheria-tetanus-polio and measles-mumps-rubella), along with hepatitis A and typhoid. Malarial prophylaxis are required. A certificate of yellow fever vaccination is required if travelling from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and for travellers having transited for more than 12 hrs through an airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dentist check up. A good online resource is [Travel Health Pro](#).

## Currency

The unit of currency in Botswana is the Pula.

The unit of currency in Zambia is the Zambian Kwacha.

## Climate

This central region of Southern Africa is subtropical being generally warm and mild to humid. October and November are hot, day and night. November to April is the hottest time of the year with chances of showers to heavy rains later in the season. May to September is cool and dry.

## Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at [travelaware.campaign.gov.uk](http://travelaware.campaign.gov.uk) and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

## FAQ's about our family holidays

We welcome all family dynamics and we will try to accommodate you in the roomings of your choice. The only stipulation for joining a family group holiday is that 1 party member is 17yrs or under, and they are accompanied by an adult. An average group size is around 10 members in total. Further general information and FAQ's are available here: [KE Family Adventure Holidays general information](#).

## Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

# Equipment Information

## Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

## You should bring the following items:

- Sleeping bag (comfort rated 5°C). *Sleeping bag hire is available, please contact the office*
- Fold away bag (dry bag) for 2 nights at the Delta
- Comfortable walking shoes/trainers and sandals
- Lightweight trousers / shorts / skirts
- Socks & underwear
- T-shirts / tops
- Fleece jacket
- Lightweight waterproof jacket
- Swimwear
- Sunhat with wide brim
- Warm hat
- Sunglasses
- Daypack 20 to 30 litres (depending on how much of the kids' stuff you need to carry)
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Water bottles 1 Litre x2 (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Dry bags(s) for daypack (to ensure they keep dry)
- Washbag and toiletries
- Trek Towel
- Antibacterial handwash
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Basic First Aid Kit - Antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters, blister treatment, Insect repellent, antihistamine cream and tablets, and re-hydration salts (Dioralite). Glucose tablets and multi-vitamin tablets are a good idea.

## The following items are optional:

- Binoculars (a really good idea so you can see the wildlife better)
- Travel clothes
- Sleeping bag liner (essential if hiring a bag)
- Pillow (or pillow case which you can stuff with a soft fleece)
- Pen-knife (note: always pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Repair kit - (eg. needle, thread, duct tape)
- Camera
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

## Notes

- Please respect local culture and dress appropriately for border crossings, village and market visits - ie: no bare feet, no bare chests, no bikinis and no hats.
- A foam camping mattress is provided for the camping nights

## Cotswold Outdoor

Many of the equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive a 12.5% discount with Cotswold Outdoor, Snow+Rock and Runners Need. The discount code can be downloaded from

your MyKE account and you can use this code at the checkout, either in store or online.

## Land Only Information

The dates shown are for the LAND ONLY itinerary, joining in Maun (Botswana) and ending in Livingstone (Zambia). Single timed airport transfers are provided.

## Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Maun and returning from Livingstone Airport or Victoria Falls Airport.

Outbound flights will depart from the UK in the evening, arriving the following day (day 1 of the Land Only itinerary). Return flights will depart in the early afternoon of the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK the following morning.

# Why Choose KE

## Why KE

The Ultimate Family Safari - a truly incredible holiday with wild camping, close encounter wildlife, brilliant guides, and at a great price for all the quality and experience you'll find elsewhere.

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 21/11/2024 and the trip is subject to change