

## **OPTIONAL BOTSWANA THREE NIGHT FOUR DAY SAFARI**

DAY 1- Depart Mwandu early morning for the two hour long ride to the border of Botswana at Kazungula. We cross over the Zambezi River on a car ferry and can see approximately where the 4 countries of Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe meet. It is located in the middle of the river at some point however there is no marking so you just have to use your imagination, but it's there. We never know how long it will take us to clear Immigration at the Zambian side or the Botswana side, it just depends on if there is a line and how long it is. From there it is a short drive to Kasane about 20 minutes or so. We stop to change money pick up supplies stretch our legs and then we take our picnic lunch to the pool area of Thebe River Safari's where they have lovely picnic tables set up right on the banks of the Chobe River under trees and enjoy our lunch and freshen up.

The drive to Elephant Sands is about 3+ hours we stop along the way to stretch our legs grab a bag of chips or a cool drink from the cooler boxes, we arrive at the luxury bush camp around 3 to 4 PM, we often see elephants and other game along the way, and do stop for you to take photos. The drive is well worth it as Elephant Sands is a very unique camp. They have 16 thousand hectares of land where the elephants and other game roam freely. There is a natural water pan as well as a concrete water pan for the elephants and other game to drink from and very often it is full of thirsty elephants not 6 meters from where you are able to observe them. The viewing area comprises of a large thatched open dining room a fully stocked bar and a large open area where there are tables and chairs, along with lots of plants and trees all with a very African décor. It's an experience not to be missed.

You are housed in en suite thatched chalets or large permanent en-suite tents all have solar lights as well as water heaters, they are set in a bush setting and have a view of the water hole. The balance of the day is yours, to relax enjoy the pool, watch the many birds and wait for the game to come down to drink. Elephant Sands is not a game park or farm it is a game ranch and the real African Bush its wide open the atmosphere is relaxed and the people very friendly. Dinner is a buffet and one of the best I have ever seen, some people come just for the dinner. After dinner you can sit in front of the fire in the pit that over looks the pans and usually watch the elephant for hours depending on the time of year.

DAY 2- Sleep IN!!!! After breakfast you are free to swim lay in the sun or have a walk about this is your time to relax after working in Mwandu. Depending on the time of year I usually have to make a trip into the nearest town, Nata, 55kms away for ice and or supplies. You are free to take the ride with me and sometimes we do see game along the way. This area is all real African bush so you are really in the middle of no where, wide open spaces and usually clear sunny skies. You can choose to stay and relax depending on what you want to do. Lunch is around 1PM. At about 3:30 or so you are packed up in the open safari vehicle by a very experienced safari guide for a three hour bush/game drive, depending on the time of year you can see lots of game, it makes so much difference to seeing game in a park or farm as seeing them in the wild, you have found

them, they are in the wild no fences, you are free to exit the vehicle and with the guide to get as close as he thinks is safe. The experience is not like any other you will have in other parts of Africa as Botswana is still under populated and open bush. You will see a fantastic sunset while having your “sun downers” (drinks) in the bush the drive includes 2 drinks of your choice as well as water. Then back to camp for dinner and another night under the stars in front of fire.

DAY 3- After breakfast we depart early, driving back to Kasane, the gateway to Chobe National Park. We arrive around noon. After checking into our air conditioned rooms that have tea/coffee and a kettle at Thebe River Safaris Lodge, we have lunch at the restaurant. At 3 PM you are transported to the Chobe River for your 3+ hour river safari and a great sunset. You arrive back in time for dinner and drinks at the bar. Lunch and dinner are at the restaurant at the lodge, they have a full menu and something for everyone. There is a lively bar for those of you who wish to stay up and have a bit of fun.

DAY 4- At 5:45 AM you meet your safari driver and off you go in the open safari vehicle with a very experienced guide for your 3+ hour game drive in Chobe National Park where just about every species of game is represented except Rhino there is also a startling array of birds. Chobe is home to about 200,000 elephants alone. Then after breakfast we return back to Mwandia.

The safari includes all your meals, tea and coffee, transport, game drives river safari, park entry fees, accommodation, ice for your cooler box, water and chips to snack on.

Does not include your personal drinks, alcohol, or additional snacks you may want like chocolate.

Most people from the West do not require a visa for Botswana