



NXAI TRAVEL

Tailored safaris. Timeless landscapes.

Rra-Botswana Self-Drive Explorer

20 nights/21 days

This immersive 21-day self-drive safari journeys from the dramatic landscapes of Goo Moremi Gorge through the vast Kalahari, into the waterways of the Okavango Delta, and back along Botswana's eastern corridor via the iconic Makgadikgadi Salt Pans.

Designed for adventurous travellers who prefer freedom with structure, this safari has all key accommodations and park camps pre-booked, allowing you to focus on the road, the wildlife, and the wonder.

Avoid national park booking frustrations and long queues by choosing this comprehensive self-drive package, which secures your campsites in premier reserves such as Moremi and Chobe. Traverse remote wilderness routes and encounter Africa's legendary Big Five along the way.

Many stops along the route can be upgraded to lodge or en-suite safari tent accommodation, giving you the flexibility to balance rugged adventure with added comfort whenever you choose.





Tour details

Tour days: 21 days

Accommodation: Standard and/or Camping

Tour Type: Self-drive

Dates: All year round. Weather conditions during the rainy season may require adjustments to the itinerary. A route map will be provided on enquiry.

Day 1: Goo Moremi

Day 2: Khama Rhino Sanctuary

Day 3 & 4: Makgadikgadi Pans National Park & Boteti River

Day 5 & 6: CKGR

Day 7: Maun

Day 8 & 9: Moremi Game Reserve

Day 10 & 11: Khwai

Day 12 & 13: Savuti

Day 14 & 15: Chobe

Day 16: Makgadikgadi Salt Pans

Day 17: Lekhubu Island

Day 18: Francistown

Day 19 & 20: Tuli

Day 21: (Departure)

*The meals and activities included depend on the lodges you choose.
Contact us for full details.

Tour highlights

- Visit to Goo Moremi Gorge and Khama Rhino Sanctuary
- Visit Chobe National Park, Makgadikgadi Pans in the Kalahari, Moremi Game Reserve in the Okavango Delta
- Well-maintained, clearly signposted road routes
- Travel and explore at your own pace with a 4x4 vehicle equipped with GPS and optional satellite phone
- Cruise the Chobe River during sunset
- Explore the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans
- Go on thrilling game drives in Chobe National Park
- Glide along the Delta waterways in a traditional dug-out canoe
- Zebra migration (in season)



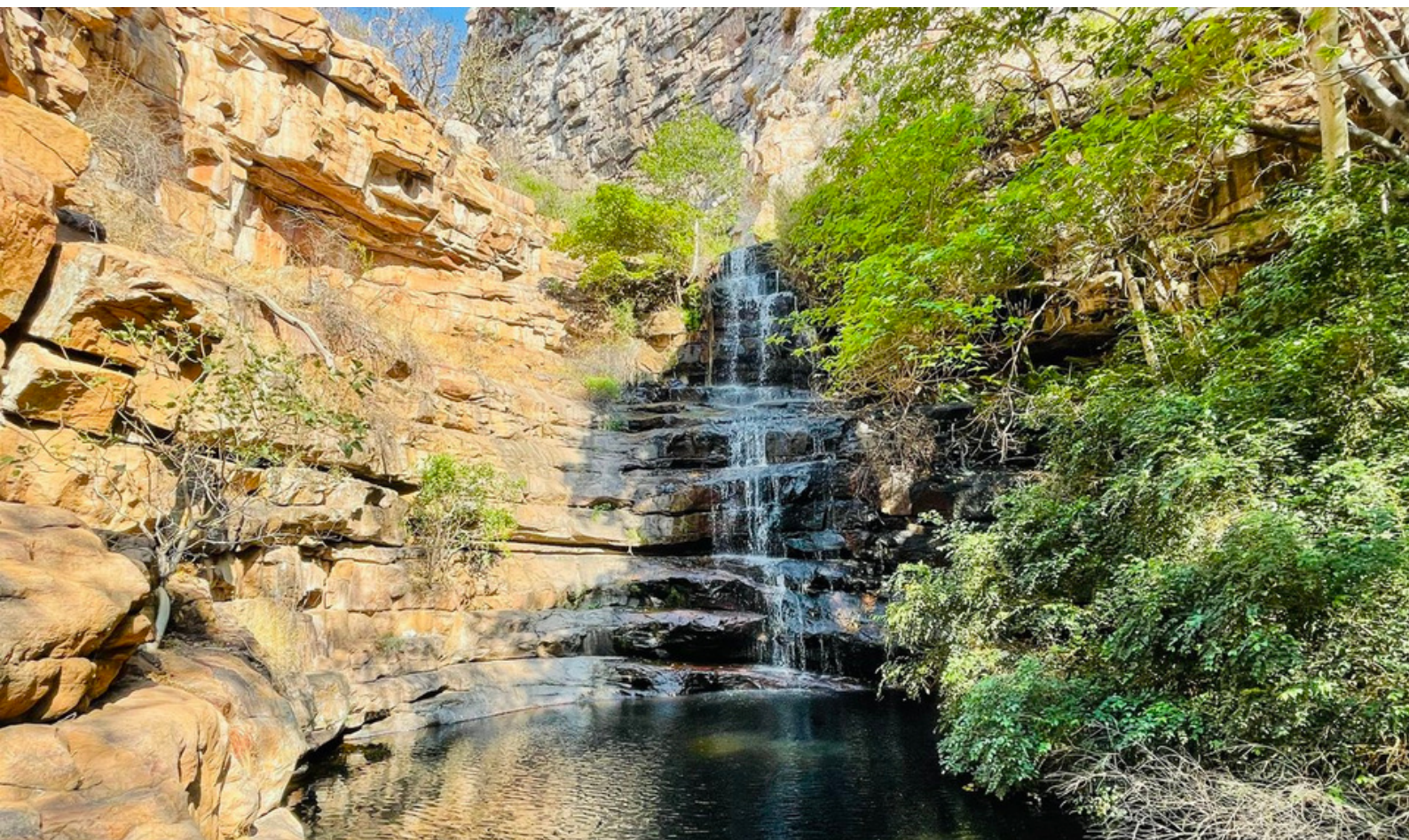
Day-to-day itinerary

Day 1: Goo Moremi Gorge (1 night)

A long but rewarding travel day brings you across the Botswana border and onward to Goo Moremi Gorge. This lush sanctuary of waterfalls and deep ravines is rich in cultural heritage and wildlife and is a community based cultural and heritage site. It sits on an expansive 1836ha conservation zone at the foot of the Tswapong Hills, about 342km from the capital city Gaborone.

Perennial streams have cut deep gorges into the hills, with waterfalls cascading into deep pools surrounded by lush vegetation. The gorges are home to many birds that feed on fish and small crabs in the pools and are breeding grounds for the endangered Cape vulture. Leopard, hyena and kudu live in the hills, and the cliffs above the gorge harbour baboons and rock rabbits. Steeped in myth and legend, the gorge offers a peaceful introduction to Botswana's natural wonders.

Standard accommodation: Goo Moremi
Campsite accommodation: Goo Moremi





Day-to-day itinerary

Day 2: Khama Rhino Sanctuary
(1 night)

Travel north to the renowned Khama Rhino Sanctuary. Ease into safari driving on sandy tracks and enjoy a game drive or relax at the waterhole hide. With luck, you'll witness several rhino drinking at sunset, a powerful and unforgettable sight.

Standard accommodation: Khama Rhino Sanctuary
Camping accommodation: Khama Rhino Sanctuary

Day-to-day itinerary

Day 3 & 4: Makgadikgadi Pans National Park & Boteti River (2 nights)

After breakfast, begin the four-hour drive to Khumaga, located on the western bank of the Boteti River.

This river forms the boundary of the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park and serves as a vital lifeline for wildlife.

It is also a key corridor in the annual zebra migration, sustaining life across this arid landscape.

Standard accommodation: Boteti River Camp
Camping accommodation: Boteti River Camp





Day-to-day itinerary

Day 5 & 6: Central Kalahari Game Reserve
(2 nights)

Today, you will embark on an incredible journey into the heart of the Central Kalahari Game Reserve, where we'll spend the next three nights exploring the captivating section of this wild sanctuary.

This adventure will take you through the breathtaking landscapes of Passarge and Deception Valley, each moment brimming with excitement and discovery. The reserve's expansive and rugged terrain unfolds before us, revealing vast grasslands teeming with life.

Here, you will be on the lookout for an array of magnificent wildlife, including giraffes, cheetahs, hyenas and lions.

As we delve deeper into the beauty of the CKGR, every encounter will connect us to the raw spirit of the Kalahari, making this an unforgettable experience in one of Africa's most remarkable ecosystems.

Standard accommodation options: Deception Valley Lodge or Tau Pan
Camping accommodation: 1-night Passarge, 1-night Deception Valley

Day-to-day itinerary

Day 7: Maun (1 night)

From the Kalahari, continue to Maun, the vibrant gateway to the Okavango Delta. On arrival, enjoy a free afternoon to explore this lively town, rich in local culture and warm hospitality.

Dine at a local restaurant (own expense) and sample Botswana's traditional flavours as anticipation builds for the wilderness adventures ahead.

Standard Accommodation: Thamalakane River Lodge
Camping Accommodation: Sitatunga



Day-to-day itinerary

Day 8 & 9: Moremi Game Reserve (2 nights)

In the morning, there's time to stock up on supplies and fuel up in Maun before setting off toward the wild beauty of Moremi Game Reserve and Third Bridge, located on the edge of the Okavango Delta.

The day is ideal for game drives, offering exceptional opportunities to encounter the diverse wildlife that thrives within Moremi. Lions, hyenas and leopards are often seen, along with elephants and a wide variety of antelope species.

Camps in Botswana are unfenced, allowing animals to roam freely through the area, and at night, you may be treated to the unforgettable experience of wildlife passing close to camp.

Luxury accommodation: Camp Moremi

Standard accommodation: Camp Xakanaxa

Camping accommodation: Third Bridge / Xakanaxa Campsite





Day-to-day itinerary

Day 10 & 11: Khwai
(2 nights)

As one of Botswana's premier wildlife havens, campsites in Khwai offer an extraordinary game viewing experience.

Situated along the scenic Khwai River floodplains, the area teems with diverse wildlife and bird species, making it an ideal spot for encountering predators such as leopards, lions, and the elusive painted wolf (African wild dog).

Luxury accommodation: Camp Khwai
Standard accommodation: Khwai Guest House
Camping accommodation: Khwai Campsites / Magotlho

Day-to-day itinerary

Day 12 & 13: Savute
(2 nights)

The journey from Khwai in the Moremi Game Reserve to Savute in Chobe National Park is a game drive in itself, offering rich wildlife encounters along the way. As with any Botswana safari, an early start is recommended, with time for a final game drive around North Gate before continuing north.

You will arrive at Savute in the afternoon. This legendary region is known for its powerful bull elephants and the famous Savute lion pride that patrols the Savute Marsh. Once dry for decades, the Savute Channel has flowed again in recent years, breathing new life into the landscape. The afternoon is perfect for an extended game drive to explore this remarkable wilderness.

Standard accommodation: Camp Savute
Camping accommodation: Savute Campsites





Day-to-day itinerary

Day 14 & 15: Chobe
(2 nights)

From Savute, you travel north through sandy tracks where a 4×4 is essential. This route leads into the northern reaches of Chobe National Park, where wildlife density increases dramatically.

Your destination is Ihaha, beautifully positioned along the Chobe River, with sweeping views across to Namibia. This region holds the highest concentration of elephants in Africa, and watching vast herds descend to the river to drink and bathe is one of the great spectacles of the safari world.

Standard accommodation: Kubu Lodge
Camping accommodation: Ihaha/ Senyati

Day-to-day itinerary

Day 16: Ntwetwe Pan & Nata Bird Sanctuary (1 night)

Journey south to the edge of Ntwetwe Pan. Enjoy a guided village visit and quad biking across the vast white plains, an exhilarating contrast to forest and floodplain ecosystems.

Serviced camping accommodation: Zoroga Expedition Camp





Day-to-day itinerary

Day 17: Lekhubu Heritage Trail (1 night)

Venture deep into the pans to sacred Lekhubu Island, a place of silence, symbolism and surreal beauty.

Ancient stone walls, built as far back as 1300 AD, and ritual cairns speak of long-past initiation ceremonies, while towering baobabs and birdlife dominate the skyline, most of them migratory such as the flamingo that nestles here seasonally.

Standard Accommodation: Makgadikgadi Adventure Camp
Camping Accommodation: Lekhubu Campsite

Day-to-day itinerary

Day 18: Francistown (1 night)

Continue to Francistown, Botswana's second-largest city. Overnight beside the Tati River, you can enjoy a restful pause before the final wilderness stretch.

Standard Accommodation: Woodlands Stop Over
Camping Accommodation: Woodlands Stop Over





Day-to-day itinerary

Day 19 & 20: Tuli
(2 nights)

Arrive in the rugged beauty of the Tuli Block along the Limpopo River. Activities may include tracking rhino with anti-poaching teams, walking safaris, or sundowners atop rocky koppies.

Wild dogs, elephants and leopards frequent the area, and every moment unfolds at nature's pace.

Limpopo-Lipadi is where you can take it easy and adjust to the relaxed rhythm of the bush, where the journey truly is the destination.

Standard Accommodation: River Camp (Self Catering)

Day-to-day itinerary

Day 21: Limpopo (Departure / End of Tour)

Your journey ends along the Limpopo River. You can cross the border into South Africa or continue on into neighbouring Zimbabwe.

You'll leave with dust on your boots, stories in your heart, and one unavoidable thought: This is not the end, it's just the beginning of your next Botswana adventure.

