



NXAI TRAVEL

Tailored safaris. Timeless landscapes.

1. Through Botswana & Namibia -Self Drive

This 13-day self-drive safari is a masterclass in southern African diversity, combining iconic wildlife destinations with extraordinary landscapes and deeply immersive experiences. Designed for travellers who crave freedom, discovery and connection with nature, this journey delivers the very best of Botswana and Namibia in one seamless adventure.

From the lush waterways of the Zambezi Region to the bird-filled floodplains of the Panhandle, you'll journey through ecosystems that feel worlds apart. Papyrus-lined channels reveal the aquatic heart of the Okavango system, stretching all the way to Khwai, while the stark salt pans tell a very different story; one shaped by dust, wind and the thunder of hooves during the longest zebra migration in Africa. This dramatic movement of life can be followed all the way to Chobe National Park, where elephants rule the riverbanks.

This safari has been carefully crafted as a flexible, time- and budget-aware highlights tour, offering varied game viewing, remarkable scenery and the freedom to tailor your experience. Whether you choose camping under the stars or the comfort of mid- to upmarket lodges, this is a self-drive safari at its most rewarding. Don't overthink it. Go. You'll thank yourself later.

Accommodation options range from camping to mid and upmarket safari lodges — or a combination of both.

The tour starts and ends in Maun, with the option to begin or finish in Chobe National Park or even at Victoria Falls.

TRIP SUMMARY

Day 1: Maun
Day 2,3 & 4: Okavango Panhandle & Tsodilo Hills
Day 5 & 6: Zambezi Region
Day 7, 8 & 9: Chobe National Park
Day 10: Makgadikgadi
Day 11 & 12: Nxai National Park
Day 13: Maun (Departure)

**Meals and activities depend on lodge selection. Please contact us for full details.*

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Combine the highlights of three countries in one: Botswana, Namibia and a day trip to Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)
- Pan Handle and Tsodilo Hills
- Expect to be enchanted by wildlife throughout the journey
- Boat cruises on the Okavango River and Zambezi.
- Explore Namibia's wetlands.
- Birdlife galore
- Safari in the Chobe National Park, boat on the Chobe River and guided visit to Victoria Falls.
- The open pans of the Makgadikgadi.
- Optional big game safari in the Okavango Delta

DAY-TO-DAY ITINERARY



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Day 1: Maun (1 night)

Welcome to Botswana's safari capital. On arrival, you will be met and transferred to the car hire offices to complete rental formalities, followed by a meeting with our representative to receive your travel pack and go through your route. Maps out. Questions answered. Engine on.

When you're there:

Settle into your accommodation or explore town at leisure. Browse local shops, enjoy lunch at a café and stock up on supplies for the days ahead. Ease into safari time with a swim and a sundowner; tomorrow, the wilderness begins.

*Luxury & Standard Accommodation: Maun Studios
Camping Accommodation: Audi Camp*

Day 2,3 & 4: Okavango Panhandle & Tsodilo Hills (2 nights)

Drive north to the Panhandle, a 70km stretch where the Okavango gathers itself before spreading into the Delta. Deep channels host hippos, lagoons shimmer with lilies, and papyrus reeds whisper with birdlife. For anglers, this is prime tigerfish territory.

The drive takes around six hours on rougher roads, but the reward is absolute tranquility.

Tsodilo Hills

Listed as a UNESCO world heritage site, the Tsodilo hills are home to more than 4,500 rock paintings on a small area. It is a magical and fascinating place to explore, promising beautiful hikes.

Guma Lagoon

Located along the banks of the river on the northwest side of the Okavango delta, Guma Lagoon camp is a true paradise for fishermen and birdwatchers but also the perfect place to relax and enjoy wonderful mokoro rides, the traditional canoe which was the mode of transport for the first inhabitants of the Okavango, the Bayei and Banoka. A must-do in Botswana!

All the lodges in these parts offer additional activities such as fishing, mokoro drives, night drives and helicopter scenic flights. Be sure to join in on a lodge activity if time allows.

Luxury Accommodation: Nxamaseri Island Lodge

Standard Accommodation: Guma Lagoon Camp

Camping: Guma Lagoon Campsites

Day 5 & 6: Zambezi Region (2 nights)



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An early start takes you into Namibia's Caprivi where Africa turns green again.

When you're there:

Broad-leafed woodlands, wide rivers and open floodplains define this sub-tropical landscape. Enjoy river safaris, bush walks and sunset cruises. Visit Mahango and Buffalo Game Parks, Popa Falls and nearby villages to meet the welcoming Kavango people. This region feels like a gentler, quieter Okavango; and just as beautiful.

Luxury Accommodation: Divava Okavango Lodge & Spa

Standard Accommodation: Shametu River Lodge

Camping: Shametu River Campsite

Day 7, 8 & 9: Chobe National Park
(3 nights)

Cross back into Botswana at Ngoma Bridge and enter one of Africa's great wildlife theatres.

When you're there:

Chobe is elephant country. From a boat or vehicle, you'll witness massive herds, buffalo, antelope and predators drawn to the river. Birdlife is prolific, and a full-day excursion to Victoria Falls adds a spectacular natural wonder to your safari.

Our recommended schedule for this leg is:

Day 7: Afternoon boat cruise on the Chobe River - excellent game viewing, birdwatching and scenery

Day 8: Early morning and late afternoon game drives in Chobe National Park. We always recommend doing these drives with the lodge so you can enter the park earlier and exit later.

Day 9: Full day excursion to Victoria Falls - one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Transfer across to Zimbabwe. Enjoy the falls and spend the day at your leisure before returning by transfer back to Chobe again.

*Activities included - 1 x game drive, 1 x boat cruise, 1 x private boat cruise and 1 x Victoria Falls Day Trip (unguided with return transfers)

Note: the Victoria Falls Day Trip can be exchanged for 2 other Chobe activities instead
*Chobe Park fees for 2 days are included

Standard Accommodation: Chobe Safari Lodge

Camping: Chobe Safari Lodge Campsite

Day 10: Makgadikgadi Pans
(1 night)

After breakfast, it's an early start as you make your way south via Padamatenga to Nata and then west towards Zoroga. It's all tarred roads so an easy drive but a longer day in the car. An opportune time to think back on where you have been so far.



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Situated close to the villages of Nata and Gweta, on the Francistown-Maun Road, Zoroga Expeditions Camp offers a welcoming base from which to explore the Makgadikgadi Pans system.

Zoroga Expeditions Camp combines style with comfort whilst remaining true to its traditional Bushman inspiration. Accommodation styles with Bushman grass huts, and a campsite where you can pitch your own tents.

Guests can enjoy a guided excursion to the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans and explore the pans while gaining an understanding of this iconic landscape. An educational bush walk accompanied by a registered guide is another activity available to guests. Guests can then spend the evening at leisure.

Standard Accommodation: Zoroga Expedition Camp-Bushman Inspired Huts (shared ablutions)

Camping: Zoroga Expedition Campsite

Day 11 & 12: Nxai Pan (2 nights)

Drive west to Nxai Pan; a landscape of shimmering salt, lone baobabs and seasonal drama. Nxai Pan is one of the largest salt pans of Botswana offering unique safari experiences.

When you're there:

Game drives reveal elephants, giraffe, springbok, lions and cheetahs. During the rainy season, zebras sweep across the plains in vast numbers. Visit Baines' Baobabs, learn San tracking skills and stargaze beneath skies untouched by light.

**Lodge stays are fully inclusive of scheduled activities.*

Luxury Accommodation: Nxai Pan Camp

Camping: Nxai Pans Campsites

Day 13: Maun (Departure / End of Tour)

Return to Maun and connect with your onward journey.

Our tip:

Add a final night in or near Maun to unwind before your flight; a soft landing after a wild adventure.