



BOT1. Best of Botswana Chobe, Okavango & Makgadikgadi Pans (6 nights)

[Highlights: Chobe National Park, Okavango Delta, Makgadikgadi Pans]



TOUR SUMMARY:	
No of days / nights:	7 / 6
Tour starts:	Kasane
Tour ends:	Maun
Includes:	Accommodation, transfers in light aircraft between Kasane and Okavango Delta, Okavango Delta and Makgadikgadi Pans, Makgadikgadi Pans and Maun, safari in Chobe National Park, Okavango Delta and Makgadikgadi Pans
Accommodation:	Comfort
Best time to visit:	June to November

DAY-TO-DAY ITINERARY:

Day 1 Chobe National Park

Upon arrival at Kasane you will be met and transferred to your lodge located in the Chobe National Park. Afternoon activity: either a boat cruise on the Chobe River or a game drive in the Chobe Game Reserve will be offered. Game viewing by boat gives one the chance to get close to some of the water based animals such as crocodiles and hippopotamus as well as elephants that frequent the river.

Day 2 Chobe National Park

Early morning activity: Venture out in to the wilderness that is the Chobe Game Reserve.

The Chobe National Park, which is the second largest national park in Botswana and covers 10,566 km², has one of the greatest concentrations of game found on the African continent. It is however most famous for the large herds of elephant that inhabit the park.

Breakfast is served upon your return to the lodge. After a few hours relaxing by the pool or in your room it is time for high tea followed by your afternoon activity - boat cruise or game drive. Dinner at your lodge.

Day 3 Chobe National Park to Okavango Delta

Early morning activity followed by breakfast and checkout. You will be transferred to Kasane airport for a transfer in a light aircraft to your camp in the heart of the Okavango Delta. Arrive in time for lunch.

The Okavango Delta is one of the world's largest inland water systems. Its headwaters start in Angola's western highlands, with numerous tributaries joining to form the Cubango river, which then flows through Namibia (called the Kavango) and finally enters Botswana, where it is then called the Okavango. The delta environment has large numbers of animal populations that are otherwise rare, such as crocodile, red lechwe, sitatunga, elephant, wild dogs, buffalo, wattled crane as well as the other more common mammals and bird life.

Afternoon activity: safari activities by water are the primary speciality of the Okavango - the mokoro. a dugout canoe which is 'poled' along by your Guide, is the most evocative way of exploring the numerous waterways. Motor launches travel on the main waterways and lagoons. Enjoy a dinner under the African sky.

Day 4 Okavango Delta

Early morning safari activity followed by breakfast. After a few hours relaxing in the shade or by the pool it is time for high tea followed by your afternoon activity - boat cruise or nature walk. Dinner at the lodge.

Day 5 Okavango Delta to Makgadikgadi Pans

Early morning activity (time permitting) followed by breakfast and checkout. You will continue your journey southwards in a light aircraft to your lodge which is located on the boundary of the impressive Makgadikgadi Pans.

DAY-TO-DAY ITINERARY CONT'D:

The Makgadikgadi Pans National Park stretches away from the banks of the Boteti River, through its interior of scrubland and grasslands. The western boundary provides for mineral rich grass lands and the Boteti River which supplies the much needed sustenance for the herds which inhabit the park. The Boteti river is the main outflow of the Okavango Delta, collecting the water that flows past Maun, and stretches about 250 km southeast finally ending at Lake Xau on the extreme south western edge of the great Makgadikgadi salt pans. There was permanent water in the river since long before Livingstone first explored the area in the late 1840s and brought the existence of Lake Ngami to the attention of the outside world. The river provided water for the great herds of wildlife that seasonally utilized the short grass plains on the north-west side of the Makgadikgadi, and latterly provided water for the Setswana cattle herders who moved onto the western bank. The river was thus a natural barrier between the wildlife and the cattle – and was a natural boundary for the National park.

Enjoy a late afternoon game drive in this game rich area. Witness another magical African sunset together with a drink and some snacks before returning to the lodge for a hearty dinner served under the stars.

Day 6 Makgadikgadi Pans

Early morning safari activity followed by breakfast. Time to relax by the pool or in the comfort of your room. After high tea is served you will venture out for another afternoon / evening game drive. Dinner at the lodge.

Day 7 Checkout

Early morning activity (time permitting) followed by breakfast and checkout. Enjoy the short flight to Maun airport in a light aircraft where you will await the departure of your onward bound flight.

