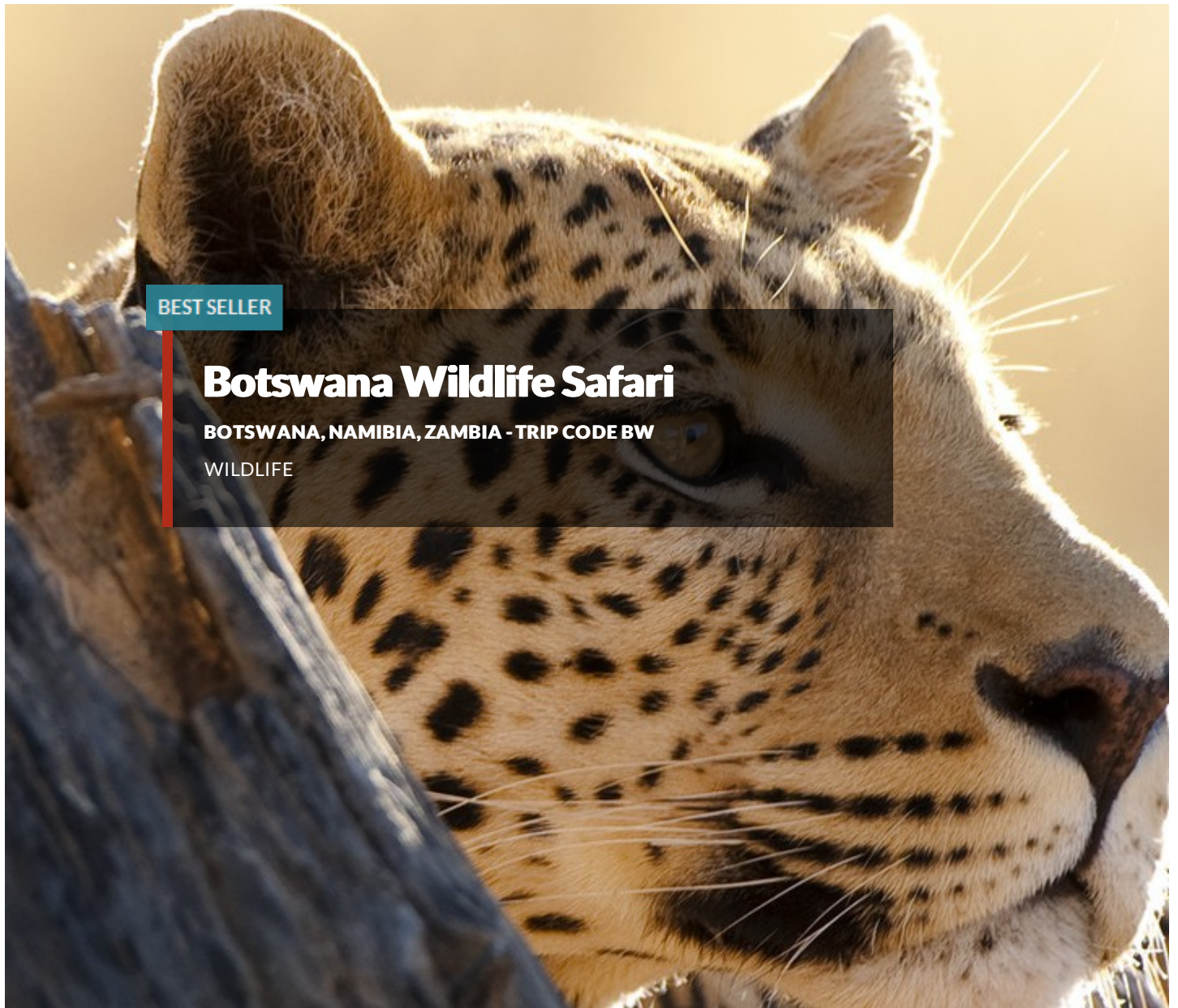


EXPLORE!



BEST SELLER

Botswana Wildlife Safari

BOTSWANA, NAMIBIA, ZAMBIA - TRIP CODE BW

WILDLIFE

Why book this trip?

A trip through Botswana's remote wilderness to track Africa's greatest animals, stay on a houseboat on the delta, sleep under canvas in the bush and visit the Smoke that Thunders - Victoria Falls.

- **Game Viewing** - Explore Botswana's finest game reserves during seven days of safari
- **Okavango Delta Panhandle** - Search for water-dwelling wildlife and exotic birds in the remote area of the delta
- **Chobe National Park** - A remarkable wildlife sanctuary, world famous for its huge elephant population.



INCLUDED MEALS
Breakfast: 14
Lunch: 11
Dinner: 10



TRIP STAFF
Explore Tour
Leader
Boat Crew
Camp Crew
Cook
Driver(s)
Local Guide(s)



TRANSPORT
4WD
Boat



ACCOMMODATION



TRIP PACE:
Full on



GROUP SIZE:
8 - 12

Itinerary

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

Trip information

Country information

Botswana

Climate

Botswana's regional characteristics, from fertile areas in the east to waterless desert in the centre and south, and a vast delta in the north-west, make for extremes of temperatures and highly variable rainfall. Seasonal weather patterns can be unpredictable.

Time difference to GMT	Plugs	Religion	Language
+2	3 Pin Round	Christians. Anglicans, Methodists	English, Setswana

Namibia

Climate

With a staggering 300 days of sunshine each year, Namibia is a year-round destination, although some may prefer to avoid the heat of high summer. The cold Benguela current keeps the Atlantic coast of the Namib Desert cool and rain-free for most of the year, with a thick coastal fog that lends a mysterious edge to the area. January and February are the hottest months, when daytime temperatures in the heart of the Namib can exceed 40°C (104°F), but nights are usually cool. Winter nights can be fairly cold, but days are generally warm and pleasant.

Time difference to GMT	Plugs	Religion	Language
+1	3 Pin Round	Christian	English, Afrikaans, German

Zambia

Climate

The main rainy season is from January to March. Rain is widespread and generally falls in the form of a thunderstorm in the late afternoon; grass tends to be long and there is more water about so game is more dispersed. Otherwise it is dry, with low humidity for most of the year. Temperatures reach around 29°C during the day with quite cold nights throughout the year. Early dry season is the most pleasant time for temperatures and the best for bird watching. For game viewing though the late dry season is better

Time difference to GMT	Plugs	Religion	Language
+2	3 Pin Flat	Christian & Indigenous	English, Bemba.

Budgeting and packing

Optional activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations. Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

Maun - Flight over Okavango Delta (approx. 1 hour) US\$ 100pp depending on numbers booked (must be booked in advance so speak to your tour leader).

Livingstone - Helicopter for 30 mins flight US\$ 360pp (plus US\$6pp aviation fee), Whitewater rafting half day US\$ 160pp, full day US\$ 170pp; Upper Zambezi canoeing half day US\$ 110pp, full day US\$ 145pp; Zambezi river cruises sunset (1 hour) US\$ 65pp, sunset & dinner US\$ 85pp; Game drives US\$ 65pp for 2 hours; Livingstone tour US\$ 50pp; Cultural village tour US\$ 50pp (including transfers).

Chobe - optional river cruise US\$ 40pp.

Okavango Panhandle - boat trip - no charge.

Rafting note: River conditions are determined by seasonally predictable fluctuations in water levels. Low water season generally runs from August to January each year - this is when the Zambezi is at its very wildest. High water is from about February to July and there can be a closed season between March and June depending on the season's rains.

Clothing

Clothing should be lightweight. However, a wind/waterproof jacket, a warm fleece or sweater and thermal underwear for night time are strongly advised, as nights, early morning game drives and longer journeys can be very cold, especially in winter (April to August).

We suggest that during the winter months you take a number of layers to combat the cold which can then be removed as the day warms up. Brightly coloured and white clothing is not suitable for game viewing. You may like to bring a swimming costume for the hotels with pools.

Footwear

Lightweight trail boots or robust trainers with good traction soles and sandals.

Luggage

15Kg

Luggage: On tour

The limit is one barrel bag/holdall/internal frame backpack (suitcases are not permitted) per person and a reasonable amount of photographic equipment. A day bag is essential for everyday use.

Equipment

Dome tents are provided which sleep a maximum of two people. Camp cots with mattresses, fitted sheets, sleeping bags, pillows and blankets are also provided. Tents are erected by our crew.

Please bring a towel with you and also a water bottle, (head) torch and larger torch for toilet visits at night whilst camping, sunhat, sunglasses, insect repellent and sunscreen. Binoculars are essential for game viewing and a 300mm lens is recommended for photography. Tents have sewn-in mosquito screening so nets are not required.

Camera batteries can be charged in Maun and Livingstone, whilst there is also a charging facility on our safari vehicle. We do however recommend that you bring spare batteries.

Tipping

Explore leader

Tipping isn't compulsory, and we work hard to ensure that our leaders all receive a fair wage. However, you might want to recognise a leader that's done a great job or really added to your trip by giving them a tip. We're often asked about the recommended amount. It's a tricky one, and down to personal preference, but we'd recommend between £15 to £20 per person per week as a guideline.

Local crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, your leader may organise a group's tips kitty for included activities and meals and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour.

Accordingly, you should allow US\$30.00 per person for group tipping

Botswana

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price	Dinner price	Beer price	Water price
£8.00	£15.00	£1.50	£0.75

Foreign Exchange

Local currency

Botswana Pula

Recommended Currency For Exchange

We suggest that you take your spending money is cash as US Dollars. Please note that the banks and Forex Bureaus do not accept US Dollars pre-2002. NB: you may find it useful to bring smaller denominations of US Dollars for tips.

ATM Availability

Cash can be drawn out on credit cards from ATM's in Kasane and Maun

Credit Card Acceptance

Limited. Some lodges may accept credit cards, however the service is very sporadic.

Travellers Cheques

Not recommended

Namibia

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price	Dinner price	Beer price	Water price
£15	£20	£1.5	£0.8

Foreign Exchange

Local currency

Namibian Dollar. South African Rand is legal tender in Namibia.

Recommended Currency For Exchange

USD are readily exchanged in Namibia and GBP to a lesser extent. Take your money in a combination of ATM cards and cash

Where To Exchange

On arrival.

ATM Availability

Cash can be drawn on credit cards from ATM's in Windhoek and Swakopmund.

Credit Card Acceptance

Limited.

Travellers Cheques

Are difficult to exchange and should be used as back up

Zambia

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price	Dinner price	Beer price	Water price
£8	£20	£1.5	£1

Foreign Exchange

Local currency

Zambian Kwacha

Recommended Currency For Exchange

We recommend taking your money in US\$ cash (only accept post 2006 US\$ notes) Avoid the lower and higher (US\$1, 5 & 100) denomination notes, as they are difficult to change. Please note that it is difficult to convert local currency back to US\$'s so please ask your Tour Leader for guidelines on how much to exchange

Where To Exchange

Your Tour leader will advise you.

ATM Availability

In the cities and larger towns, the larger banks have ATMs.

Credit Card Acceptance

Credit cards have limited use in Zambia, and incur a 5% bank charge.

Travellers Cheques

Can be difficult to exchange.

Transport, Accommodation & Meals

Transport Information

4WD, Boat

Accommodation notes

This tour uses a great mix of accommodation, affording us a real flavour of one of Africa's most beautiful countries.

We start and end our trip in a comfortable, mid-range hotel in Maun. On the Okavango Panhandle we spend three nights on a houseboat - the boat has a lower deck with en-suite cabins and upper deck with a bar/dining area and an open seating area at the rear. In Livingstone we stay in bungalows on the banks of the Zambezi.

In the Okavango Delta and game reserves of Botswana we enjoy the experience of camping under the African sky. Our chosen campsites are exclusive to our groups and the exact location may change slightly as the campsites are moved short distances from time to time to allow the bush to return to its natural state. Each campsite features a short-drop toilet (with a seat!), bucket shower and camp cots for our two man tents. Mattresses, fitted sheets, sleeping bags, pillows and blankets are also provided. Camp assistants take care of all camp chores so no participation is required.

Botswana

Food and drink

Dietary requirements: Most restaurants and hotels in Botswana do not have a wide selection of vegan and vegetarian choices. There is usually a choice of salads and one main vegetarian and/or vegan main dish on the menus, but choice will be limited especially in more remote locations. If you have specific dietary requirements we do recommend for you to bring some food with you.

Namibia

Food and drink

Dietary requirements:

It's very important that you let us know of any dietary requirements at least 60 days prior to the departure of your trip because your Leader will pre-plan menus and shop for the majority of the food prior to departure. In Namibia there is very limited availability for specialist food products along the way and leaders will need to pre-advise accommodations of any specific requirements so they can ensure they have options. Please note, without prior notice or if your requirements change while on the trip Explore cannot guarantee all requirements will be catered for.

If you have a specialist diet, including but not limited to vegan, gluten free, lactose intolerant and/or coeliac, we strongly recommend you bring some snacks with you as options will be limited, particularly in rural parts of Namibia where specialist food products in supermarkets are very limited and restaurants will often have one or two alternative options on their menus. With prior notice our leaders will always ensure there is a meal for you, however, we must stress we cannot guarantee variety or choice.

Zambia

Food and drink

Dietary requirements: Most restaurants and hotels in Zambia do not have a wide selection of vegan and vegetarian choices. There is usually a choice of salads and one main vegetarian and/or vegan main dish on the menus, but choice will be limited especially in more remote locations. If you have specific dietary requirements we do recommend for you to bring some food with you.

FCO Advice

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice [click here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, [click here](#)

Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

Price Guarantee

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

Visa and Passport Information

Travelling with Minors via South Africa (including transits) and entry into Botswana and Namibia Regulations affecting all children aged under 18 years that are travelling to, from or via South Africa have been updated (Nov19). The law states that visa exempt children travelling for tourism purposes with one or both parents and/or an adult who is not a biological parent require to present a valid passport for each child on arrival. We strongly recommend you to refer to the South African House website for full information and to travel with a copy of these requirements.

Please refer to the FCO website for information on travelling with minors to Botswana:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/botswana/entry-requirements>

Please refer to the FCO website for information on travelling with minors to Namibia:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/namibia/entry-requirements>

Botswana: Visas are not required by UK, Australian, New Zealand, US and Canadian citizens. All passports must have at least 6 months validity remaining from date of entry into Botswana.

Namibia: Visas are not required by UK, Australian, New Zealand, US and Canadian citizens.

Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

UK passport holders will need a minimum of 1 blank page in your passport for your permission to stay stamp acquired on arrival. Other nationalities should consult their embassy or consular office.

Zambia: Visas are required for UK, Australian, New Zealand, US and Canadian citizens. British citizens can obtain these on arrival, all other nationalities should consult their consulate. All passports must have at least 6 months validity remaining on entry and also have two consecutive blank pages in their passports which lie side by side when the passport is open (i.e. a left and a right hand page).

Please refer to the Zambia Department of Immigration website for visa on arrival fees:

<http://www.zambiaimmigration.gov.zm>

When travelling via South Africa a machine readable passport is required. Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

You should confirm all visa related questions with the relevant Embassy prior to departure.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may be able to apply through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity for your chosen destination.

Booking conditions

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our Essential Information and Booking Conditions.

Transfers

[Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.](#)

Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The complimentary transfers will be arranged from the Explore designated airport or train station to your trips joining point, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. Generally the airport or station that Explore have selected will be the one that is closest to the town or city where the trip starts, or the one nearest to the joining point. It will be either an airport or train station but not both.

The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer [click here](#)

Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your

policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. Read more about them here.

Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

Ability to swim

An ability to swim is essential for your safe enjoyment of the water based activities on this trip. If you wish to participate in these activities then we insist that you are able to swim.

Botswana

Vaccinations

We do recommend protection against malaria, hepatitis A, tetanus, typhoid and polio. Consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. Travellers may wish to immunize themselves against meningitis. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at Explore Travel Health and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling. Immigration/Borders in Botswana are requesting a Yellow Fever certificate if you have previously travelled within/via an endemic country. For a list of Yellow Fever affected countries please refer to: <http://www.who.int/ith/2015-ith-annex1.pdf?ua=1>. Please note that any travellers who have visited Ebola affected countries during the last 30 days will be denied entry into Botswana. These countries are: Guinea, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Liberia

Namibia

Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory, but we do recommend protection against malaria, hepatitis A, tetanus, typhoid and

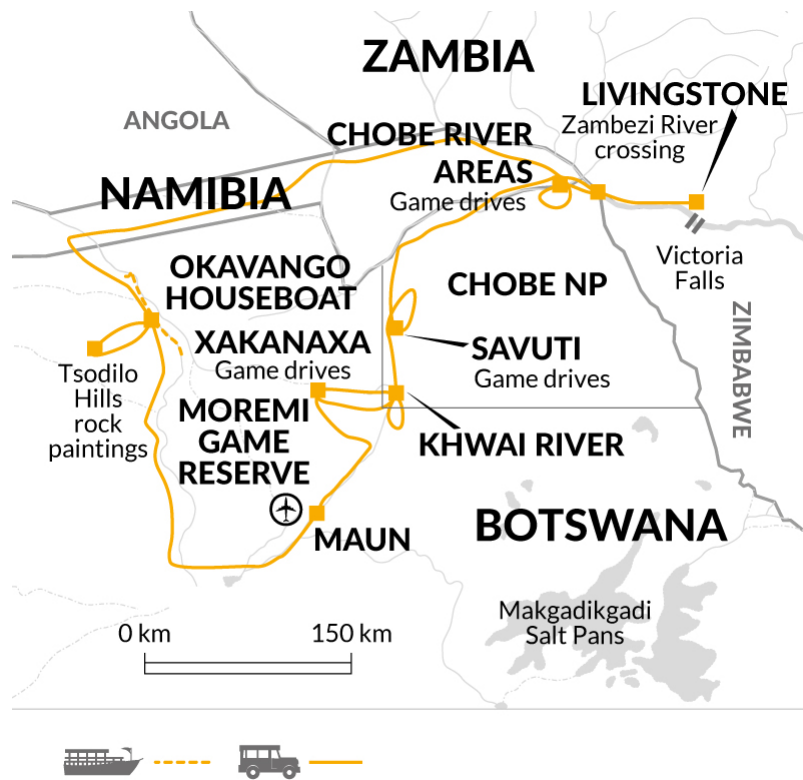
polio. Please note that all travellers aged over 9 months old that have travelled from or have transitted via a country with a risk of yellow fever transmission, will need to present a Yellow Fever certificate at immigration/borders in Namibia for inspection. Consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. Travellers may wish to immunise themselves against meningitis. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at Explore Travel Health and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

Zambia

Vaccinations

Yellow Fever is no longer compulsory for visits to Zambia, however please note that travellers that have previously travelled to or via countries that are endemic to Yellow Fever may be asked to present a Yellow Fever certificate at immigration/borders in Zambia. For a list of Yellow Fever affected countries please refer to: <http://www.who.int/ith/2015-ith-annex1.pdf?ua=1> We strongly recommend protection against malaria, hepatitis A, typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria, and polio. Malaria is present in the region so consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at Explore Travel Health and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

Additional Information



Why book this trip

This is a great tour for wildlife enthusiasts, as you will visit some of the best game viewing parks in all of Africa. You will stay in lodges, hotel, houseboat and campsites; this means you get a great diverse experience of Botswana. Our campsites enable us to explore Moremi and Savuti in depth, an opportunity that is normally restricted to luxury itineraries due to the demand for the Okavango Delta.

Reviews



**AWARD WINNING
EXPLORE LEADERS**



**PRICE GUARANTEE
PROMISE**



**AIRPORT
TRANSFERS**