# OKAVANGO & CHOBE TRAIL 2025: 08 Days | N(A)JV Camping & Accommodated (North)

Validity: 2025



All information provided in this tour dossier is subject to change without prior notice. Changes would always be in consideration of your safety first and a better quality experience where possible. Overnight accommodation stops can change without prior notification, depending on road or weather conditions or any unforeseen circumstances. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the properties listed in this dossier, these are to be used as a guideline only. We recommend that you download the most up to date version of this tour dossier one week prior to your tour departure date, however, changes are possible within 7 days prior to your tour departure.

Partaking in an adventure tour in Africa involves covering hundreds if not thousands of kilometres and our tours are as much about this journey as they are about the destinations we visit. Use your time during these drives to talk to your fellow travellers, have a drink and take note of the world passing by your window. Some roads you travel on will be smooth and easy while others could take up to an hour to cover 1 kilometre. There is just no telling what could happen with road, weather, traffic and other conditions that may exist that will either increase or decrease the amount of time you spend on the road so take your watch off, put your iPad away, turn off your phone and just relax. An average day could take anything from 5 to 14 hours, it all depends on the day... and that's only an "average"!

Please ensure that you have downloaded and read a copy of the <u>PRE DEPARTURE INFORMATION</u> booklet as this document contains important information (e.g travel insurance, visas, your money, health etc) you need to know before you depart on tour

#### **Pre-Tour Meet Up**

Join us for an optional pre-tour meet up from 17:00 to 19:00 the evening before departure, in the reception area of the Garden Court O.R. Tambo International Airport Hotel (official departure point). It's a great chance to meet your fellow travellers and our crew, ask any questions about the tour, and complete any last-minute paperwork in a relaxed setting. Attending will help you feel more prepared and connected before the adventure ahead. If you can't make it due to prior commitments, don't worry—the morning meeting on departure day will still be available to finalize everything.

### Tour departure point

Please ensure you arrive at the departure point at least 30 minutes before the scheduled departure time.

07:00 am Garden Court O.R. Tambo International Airport, 2 Hulley Road Isando Ext. 3, Kempton Park, Gauteng, South Africa
Tel: +27 (0)11 392 1062 https://www.southernsun.com/garden-court-or-tambo-international-airport

### **Tour ending point**

The Bayete Collection, Phezulu, Stand 584 Manyika Road, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe Tel: +263 832 847 321 <a href="https://www.thebayetecollection.com/phezulu/">https://www.thebayetecollection.com/phezulu/</a>

### **Maximum Number of Passengers**

20

### **Pre and Post Tour Accommodation**

If you require accommodation before or after your tour we can arrange this for you. We can also arrange airport transfers – contact your travel agent or Nomad to make these bookings.

#### After hours emergency contact

Our reservations staff are available to receive emergency calls. We would like to request that you respect this emergency number and use it only in the event of emergencies. Please only contact this number if, for example, you have missed your incoming flight, you cannot find your airport transfer or you are running late for your tour departure.

If calling from outside South Africa: 0027 82 578 2199
If calling within South Africa: 082 578 2199

# **Arrival / Departure**

Please be sure to arrive 1 day before your tour is due to depart. This will avoid any unforeseen problems. We also highly recommend that you book your flights to depart the day after the tour officially ends to allow for delays and changes.

#### What's included

Meals as outlined in the itinerary, which are prepared and served at the Nomad truck / accommodation / qualified crew / filtered water / transport in the Nomad truck / included highlights as per the itinerary / entrance fees to National Parks.

## What's excluded

Items of a personal nature (snacks, alcohol, bottled water, soft drinks, tips) / entrance fees (associated with optional activities / souvenirs and optional activities.

### **Countries Visited**

South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe

### **Green Seats – Travel Responsibly in Africa**

Nomad has a non-profit Trust that looks after the people, animals and places that we visit. We realise that a footprint is left where we travel and for this reason, the Nomad Africa Trust was established. Your donation to the Trust is called a "Green Seat". If you would like to help Nomad

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making Africa Greener, simply choose the tick box during your booking process (or contact us afterwards to add it) and we will take care of the rest. The Nomad African Trust is responsible for the administration of the funds collected from the sale of the green seats and these funds are distributed to various projects as identified by the Trust.

#### **TOUR ITINERARY**

It is possible to join this tour in Maun on day 2 by booking an optional flight from Johannesburg to Maun. The first two days of the tour are focused on travel, with long scenic drives that allow you to relax and enjoy the journey at your own pace. These days are activity-free, offering a great opportunity to settle in, unwind, and prepare for the exciting adventures that lie ahead. Joining in Maun ensures you'll be fully refreshed and ready to dive into the heart of the tour with the group.

#### Day 1 – Johannesburg to Palapye

Leaving behind the city of Johannesburg, we travel through the North-West Province to the Botswana border. After completing border formalities we continue on the Trans-Kalahari highway to our overnight stop.

Accommodation Cresta Palapye https://www.crestahotels.com/hotels/botswana/cresta-botsalo

Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-suite Bathroom

**Camping:** Two per Room with En-suite Bathroom

Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities offered.

**Route** Johannesburg to Palapye

Meals Lunch, Dinner

**Border Post** Botswana Pioneer Gate Tel: +267 533 3992, Open: 06h00 – 24h00

South Africa Skilpadshek Tel: +27 0800 00 7277, Open: 06h00 - 24h00

## Day 2 - Palapye to Maun

Today we head north through the stark yet striking landscapes of the Central Kalahari desert towards the gateway of the Okavango Delta. Along the way, you'll pass by several smaller towns and villages, offering glimpses into everyday life in Botswana. A notable point of interest on our route is the Orapa Diamond Mine, an imposing testament to Botswana's mineral wealth. This mine, which is a collaborative venture between De Beers and the Botswana government, is counted among the world's most extensive diamond mines. It serves as a critical economic pillar, contributing considerably to Botswana's GDP and export earnings. Beyond Orapa, our journey skirts the southern end of the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park before reaching our overnight destination in Maun, so keep an eye out for an array of wildlife that moves between the watering holes.

Accommodation Cresta Maun <a href="https://www.crestahotels.com/hotels/botswana/cresta-maun">https://www.crestahotels.com/hotels/botswana/cresta-maun</a> OR Maun Lodge

https://maunlodge.com/

**Facilities** Accommodated: Two per room with en-suite bathroom

Camping: Two per room with en-suite bathroom

Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities offered.

**Route** Palapye to Maun **Meals** Breakfast, Lunch

# Day 3 – Khwai Conservation Area

You will be separated from your Nomad truck for the next 2 nights and it is therefore important that you pack/gather your personal belongings which you may need, before we depart for Maun today as there is limited time in Maun for re-packing and storing. Please pack lightly and only take what you need for the following two nights. Accommodation in Khwai can best be described as a rustic style mobile fly camp. Your meru style tent is equipped with 2 single beds and adjoining en-suite amenities consisting of a bucket shower system and chemical toilet. Today we make our way towards the Okavango Delta. Early risers will have the opportunity to go on an optional scenic flight over the Delta (time and weather permitting). After your optional flight, you will be collected from Maun and will be transferred to the Khwai Conservation area in smaller safari type vehicles. Our guide will prepare us on what to expect for our afternoon mokoro excursion into the Okavango Delta. (Please note: It is possible that the mokoro activity could take place the following morning, depending on the season).

Accommodation Khwai Tented Camp (no website available)

**Facilities** Accommodated: Two per meru tent with en-suite bathroom

**Camping:** Campsite with Shared Ablutions

**Route** Maun to Khwai Conservation area **Meals** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Pre-Bookable Optional Okavango Delta scenic flight

Included Highlight Sunset Mokoro Excursion (could take place the following morning)

## Day 4 - Moremi Game Reserve

Today is a full day game drive as we spend most of our day on safari in the Moremi Game Reserve in search of the species that roam the plains. Expect some bumpy roads as we traverse this wilderness area in our 4x4 vehicles. Offering habitats from wetland, open water to the grasslands and Savannah woodland, we hope to see as many species of fauna and flora possible. This evening we arrive back at Khwai to share and compare all the amazing sightings while on safari.

**Accommodation** Khwai Tented Camp (no website available)

Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions

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Route Moremi Game Reserve

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Included Highlight Full Day Game Drive Moremi Game Drive

### Day 5 - Khwai to Nata

Today's journey from Khwai to Nata passes the Botswanan salt pans. You will pack up camp and depart at first light on the open 4x4 safari vehicles before meeting the Nomad truck in Maun. The scenic drive from Maun to Nata showcases some of Botswana's breathtaking landscapes and the rich cultural heritage. Keep an eye open as there is always a chance of a wildlife encounter or two before reaching your overnight destination near Nata.

Accommodation Elephant Sands No website available OR Nata Lodge <a href="https://underonebotswanasky.com/nata-lodge/">https://underonebotswanasky.com/nata-lodge/</a> OR Planet

Baobab <a href="https://planetbaobab.travel/">https://planetbaobab.travel/</a> OR Gweta Lodge <a href="https://gwetalodge.co.bw/">https://gwetalodge.co.bw/</a>

**Facilities** Accommodated: Two per room with en-suite bathroom

Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions

Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities offered.

**Route** Khwai Conservation Area to Nata (long day ±6-8 hours)

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Included Highlight Salt Pans viewpoint (seasonal access dependant)

## Day 6 - Nata to Kasane - Chobe National Park

This morning, we start our day early with a bush walk, giving us the chance to get up close to nature. It's a wonderful opportunity to see animal tracks and other subtle signs of the wilderness that are often hidden from view on a safari vehicle. Walk completed, we journey from Kalahari sands of Nata to Kasane and arrive in time for lunch and a quick siesta before we head out in the afternoon to explore the Chobe National Park from the river, enjoying a leisurely boat cruise which allows us an up close and personal experience with the many elephants that frequent the river in the afternoons.

Accommodation Thebe River Safaris <a href="http://www.theberiversafaris.com">http://www.theberiversafaris.com</a> OR Kwalape Safari Lodge <a href="https://kwalapesafarilodge.co.bw/">https://kwalapesafarilodge.co.bw/</a>

**Facilities** Accommodated: Two per room with en-suite bathroom

Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions

Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities offered.

Route Nata to Kasane

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Included Highlight Morning Bush Walk / Chobe National Park Boat Cruise

### Day 7 - Zimbabwe -Victoria Falls

With the memories of our wildlife encounters firmly etched in our minds, we cross the border into Zimbabwe this morning and travel the short distance to Victoria Falls. Today you will have the opportunity to visit the spectacular Victoria Falls at your leisure, also known by the local name of "Mosi-oa Tunya" (the smoke that thunders). While much of today is dedicated to viewing the mighty Zambezi River as it drops into the Batoka Gorge below, the bustling adventure town of Victoria Falls also offers a range of optional activities for those wanting a dose of adrenaline in the afternoon. For the more relaxed traveller there are craft markets and coffee shops on offer as well. This evening, you have the option to join the group for an optional dinner at a local restaurant, where you can enjoy a meal and reflect on the day's adventures. Your guide will arrange a booking for those who wish to participate.

Accommodation Phezulu <a href="https://www.thebayetecollection.com/phezulu/">https://www.thebayetecollection.com/phezulu/</a> OR Bayete

 $\underline{\text{https://www.thebayetecollection.com/bayete-guest-lodge/}} \ \ \text{OR Shearwater Explores Village}$ 

http://explorersvillage.com/

**Facilities** Accommodated: Two per room with en-suite bathroom

Camping: Two per room with en-suite bathroom

Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities of fered.

**Route** Kasane to Victoria Falls

Meals Breakfast

**Pre-Bookable Optional** Chobe National Park Game Drive

**Border Post** Botswana: Kazungula Road, Tel: +267 62 50320 / Open: 06h00-20h00

Zimbabwe: Kazungula Road, Open: 06h00-20h00

#### Day 8 - Victoria Falls

Your tour comes to an end after breakfast and with the many activities on offer in Victoria Falls, today is the perfect day for the adventure that most suites your style. Whether rafting the mighty Zambezi River or enjoying a flight over the Falls, this is your day to enjoy the many attractions on offer in Victoria Falls.

Accommodation Own Arrangements / Post tour accommodation can be booked through Nomad.

Meals Breakfast

Pre-Bookable Optionals Historical Bridge Tour / Helicopter Flight over the Falls / Bungy Jumping / Bridge Swing / Simunye Theatre Show / Sunset

Boat Cruise / Guided Tour of the Falls / Chobe Day Trip (min numbers may apply to activities)

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