



Okavango Wanderlust Trail – Camping - (OWT7C) – Tour Dossier

Introduction

The Okavango Wanderlust Trail offers you a comprehensive week long small group adventure to some of the best highlights in the Southern African region. Tried and tested over many years this tour offers incredible value for money. This epic journey includes breathtaking views and a variety from Chobe National Park, the Okavango Delta and the Khama Rhino Sanctuary. Covering a fair amount of distance is a small sacrifice for the rewards of visiting these popular adventure destinations. This trip will leave you with a life time of vivid memories of close encounters in Chobe with Elephants, mind boggling waterways of the Okavango and endangered Rhino brush in Khama Sanctuary. This seven day adventure tour allows you to touch and embrace the magic of Africa, leaving you with an everlasting desire to discover more of this diverse continent.

Highlights

Chobe National Park	Gweta Local Village walk	Okavango Bush walk
Chobe River Cruise	Okavango Delta	Khama Rhino Sanctuary
Gweta / Makgadikgadi Pans	Mokoro (dug-out canoe) excursion	Khama open vehicle game drive

Intended Itinerary

Day 1: Livingstone, Zambia – Chobe National Park, Botswana

Distance travelled: +/- 90km

Approx driving time: Short distance

From Livingstone we travel the short distance for an exciting ferry crossing from Zambia into Botswana over the confluence of the Chobe and Zambezi Rivers. We arrive in the small town of Kasane, where we check in at this river side lodge. After a lunch break you have free time to relax around the pool or take the opportunity to board an optional open 4x4 safari vehicle in search of lion, leopard, hyena, elephant, giraffe and a host of antelope and bird species while snaking our way through the sandy tracks and rugged terrain. Chobe National Park was the first national park to be established in Botswana and by size; it is the third largest park in the country. The Chobe River is one of Africa's most beautiful and supports a huge concentration of animals. Later in the afternoon we join an exciting river boat cruise giving us a unique and in-depth perspective of life on the banks of the Chobe River scattered with wildlife seeking water as night falls. Happy and content, we relax for the night under the African skies on the banks of the Chobe River.

Wow Factors: Chobe River sunset river cruise, optional open game drive in Chobe.

Accommodation: Thebe Safari Lodge or similar (shared - 2 Man Dome tents - shared facilities)

Meals included: Dinner

Day 2: Chobe National Park – Gweta / Makgadikgadi Pans

Distance travelled: +/- 450km

Approx driving time: Half day

Following an early morning breakfast, we begin an easy paced drive towards Gweta, the gateway to the massive Makgadikgadi Pans. Driving south we might be lucky to encounter huge elephant and buffalo alongside the road as there are no fences in this area to let the migratory herds walk at will in search of richer pastures and water. We stop in Nata for lunch or snack before arriving in Gweta where you have the option to relax at the lodge or explore the vast Salt Pans by hiring a 4x4 safari or quad bike tour. At certain times of the year the Makgadikgadi pans are known for its thousands of pink Flamingos indigenous to the area. The night is spent at this magnificent lodge where we enjoy a hearty meal.

Wow Factors: Rural Botswana, Local Villages, roaming wildlife, options to visit the Makgadikgadi Pans.

Accommodation: GwetaLodge or similar (shared - 2 Man Dome tents - shared facilities)

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 3: Gweta - Maun

Distance travelled: +/-250km

Approx driving time: Quarter day

Following an early morning breakfast, we join a morning guided walk through a Local Tswana village and experience everyday life, from schools, local doctors, trading and traditions. Leaving Gweta behind us we drive further west to the gateway town to the Okavango. In Maun we first stock up on supplies for our adventure excursion into the one of the wildest and remotest territories on the continent. Basing ourselves at a tranquil bush camp out of town, shaded with many trees, we enjoy the night



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in the calm surroundings of Sitatunga camp where they have a pool nestled in the shade.

Wow Factors: *Rural Botswana, Local Villages, Maun*

Accommodation: Sitatunga Safari Camp or similar (*shared - 2 Man Dome tents - shared facilities*)

Meals included: *Breakfast, Dinner*

Day 4: Maun –Okavango Delta

Distance travelled: +/-60km

Approx driving time: Two Hours

With bags and food supplies packed, sun screen and hats on hand we climb into our 4x4 vehicle ready to unearth the wonders of the Okavango Delta. This beautiful region is a natural wetland system spreading over some 1.6 million hectares of northern Botswana resulting from rivers that flow south from Angola, and dividing repeatedly on the flat Botswana plains to form an intricate floodplain of channels and an inland 'delta', the only one of its kind in the world. After a slow drive along rugged windy tracks, we cross the 'Buffalo' fence exposing us to untamed Africa. Finding the water's edge we meet our local guides, familiar and trained in the region, we board their mokoro's (dugout canoes) and are gently 'poled' out onto the narrow flat waterway. Gliding over glistening ponds while weaving through the dense green bulrushes and beautiful wild lilies, we set up a bush camp under shade setting down for lunch. The afternoon is spent either on a bush walk with our local guides, viewing hippo from your mokoro or simply taking some restful time out. The evening is enjoyed around the campfire with a little entertainment from the local guides as they sing us traditional Tswana songs.

Wow Factors: *Okavango Delta, mokoro excursion, bushwalk, swimming, Island camping*

Accommodation: *Tented mobile camp en suite – Twin share accommodation*

Meals included: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Day 5: Okavango Delta – Maun

Distance Travelled +/-60km

Approx driving Time: Two Hours

After a morning bush walk followed by a light breakfast, we pack up our gear onto our mokoro's, leaving nothing behind but footprints. Satisfied, we glide over the still waterways returning to the polers' station where our 4x4 tracker awaits us and our

polers bid us farewell. Crossing the buffalo fence back to civilization we enjoy the luxury of hot showers once again and have lunch. This afternoon feeling revitalized and refreshed we have the opportunity to join the guide for a trip into town and explore the shopping area and little market stalls scattered around the CBD. Another popular activity is a flight over the 'Delta' to get a bird's eye view of the vast wilderness you explored by boat and foot. When you see the vastness of the surroundings from the air you gain another appreciation of the beauty of the Okavango. We return to camp, enjoy a swim, and prepare a wholesome dinner ending the night under the stars with the distinct scent of wild sage in the air.

Wow Factors: *Okavango Delta, mokoro excursion, bushwalk, swimming, Maun*

Accommodation: Sitatunga Safari Camp or similar (*shared - 2 Man Dome tents - shared facilities*)

Meals included: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Day 6: Maun – Khama Rhino Sanctuary – Serowe Hotel

Distance travelled: +/-530km

Approx driving time: Full day

An early rise and shine call followed with a satisfying breakfast, we leave Maun travelling through the greater Kalahari region via Mopipi, seeing vast salt pans in the distance. Although a very enjoyable and scenic route, Mopipi has a very small population and is known as the least visited place in Botswana. We arrive at the Khama Rhino Sanctuary in the early afternoon. In 1989 a group of locals wished to convert the Serowe Pan, previously a hunting area, into a conservation region for the rhino that inhabit the area. The 'Pan' was chosen because of its 'rhino-friendly' habitat and its proximity to a Botswana Defence Force base which can provide 24 hour protection. Located on the edge of the vast Kalahari Desert, Khama is a prime habitat for white rhino, zebra, wildebeest and giraffe. Khama is a community based wildlife project which benefits the local community and teaches and educates the importance of conserving these animals. This afternoon we enjoy an open game drive with local rangers, taking in an abundance of interesting facts from rhino to fauna and flora. Our last night on safari, is spent at a nearby hotel, swapping stories and laughter with our last meal as a group.

Wow Factors: *Kalahari Desert fringes, Khama Rhino Sanctuary, open vehicle game drive*



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Accommodation: Serowe Hotel or similar (shared - 2 Man Dome tents - shared facilities)

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 7: Serowe– Johannesburg, South Africa

Distance travelled: +/- 560km

Approx driving time: Full day

On our final day we travel first to the small mining town of Serowe before joining the main route south to Martin's Drift border post. Crossing the mighty Limpopo River into South

Africa, we enjoy the scenic views noticing the changes of vegetation, infrastructure and populated civilization. Travelling via Mokopane for a lunch break, we drive into Gauteng province, arriving in Johannesburg in the late afternoon where our adventurous tour ends.

Wow Factors: Limpopo River, Johannesburg

Accommodation: Not Included

Meals included: Breakfast

Tour Information

TOUR STYLE: Small Group – Sharing- 2 Man dome tents with shared facilities.

WHAT'S INCLUDED: Tour highlights, transport, accommodation, meals as indicated, services of an English speaking driver tour leader, sleeping bag for the night bush camping in Okavango Delta.

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED: Visas, travel insurance, flights, airport transfers, optional activities, laundry, gratuities, passport & visa fees, items of a personal nature.

LOCAL PAYMENT: The local payment (LP) set out in the brochure is to be paid to the tour guide/driver on day 1 of this tour. This local payment covers running costs on the road – meals indicated, accommodation and tour highlights. Traveller's cheques and credit cards are not accepted. Payments must be made in US Dollars (US Dollars in clean, un-torn **post 2005** edition notes)

ACCOMMODATION: (shared - 2 Man Dome tents - shared facilities) and Tented Camp with en-suite facilities (1 night)

TRANSPORT: Minibus. Maximum group size: 12 passengers

BOOKING INFORMATION

When you make a confirmed booking for your tour you will be sent pre-departure information and related documents. Once you have paid in full you will receive a Travel Voucher giving full details of your joining point. Livingstone and Johannesburg are well served by a variety of airlines. Your travel agent can advise on flights to and from the start and finish of your tour.

JOINING INFORMATION

Tour meeting point in **Livingstone: The Waterfront**

Sichango Road
Livingstone

Contact details: Tel. + 260 3 320 606/7/8

E-mail: waterfront@safpar.com

Tour start time: 08:00 on day 1

Tour end point in **Johannesburg: MoAfrika Lodge**

Address: 120 Sandham Rd,
Norton Home Estate, Benoni

Johannesburg Contact details: Tel. +27 82 506 9641

E-mail: info@moafrika.com

Tour end point in **Johannesburg:**
Tour end time: Late afternoon/ early evening on day 7.

PRE TOUR ACCOMMODATION

This tour departs Livingstone early on day 1. We strongly recommend therefore that you plan to arrive a few days before departure to overcome any jet-lag, acclimatise to Africa and enjoy the many activities available in and around the Victoria Falls area, including visiting the 'Falls' themselves. We would be happy to book pre-tour accommodation for you – please call or email us (or speak to your agent) with your arrival details and accommodation requirements.

Rush Adventures - Johannesburg

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However please book early to avoid disappointment and the risk of having to find more expensive (or less convenient) lodgings.

If time allows, we also suggest planning a night or two extra (after your tour) to make the most of Johannesburg and the surrounding area.

See below for a guide to extra accommodation costs. **These prices are a guide line only and are subject to change so please check with Rush Adventures or your agent for current prices.**

Description	Price (US\$)	Description	Price (US\$)
Livingstone		Johannesburg	
Pre tour accommodation – Standard chalet Twin pppn 1 st Jan – 30 th Apr	\$70	Post tour accommodation – (Standard Room) twin/double pppn	\$45
Pretour accommodation – standard chalet Single 1 st Jan – 30 th Apr	\$110	Post tour accommodation – (standard room) single pppn	\$70
Pre tour accommodation – Standard chaletTwin pppn 1 st May – 31 st Dec	\$105	Post tour accommodation – dorm pppn	\$30
Pre tour accommodation – Standard chaletSingle 1 st May – 31 st Dec	\$160	pppn = per person per night	

WHAT TO BRING

Please try to keep your luggage to a minimum, bearing in mind that most airlines impose a 20kg luggage limit. A large soft holdall or backpack and a smaller day pack is ideal. On this tour you will need a mixture of lightweight cool clothing for the day and warm clothing (i.e fleece, long trousers and hat) for mornings and evenings as it can be cool on game drives. Pack a light rain jacket. It is advisable to bring mosquito spray throughout the year. Bring a towel and a pillow if required. A money belt/pouch that can be worn comfortably beneath your clothing is recommended. Please avoid bringing unnecessary valuables and use hotel safe to store your cash, passport and air tickets.

VACCINATIONS / HEALTH

The table below indicates the vaccinations suggested for travel on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. You should seek professional medical advice from your GP or clinic at least six weeks prior to departure. Please note some areas visited are **malarial**. We recommend you speak to your doctor or travel clinic about appropriate anti-malarial tablets.

Country	Tetanus	Diphtheria	Polio	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Typhoid	Meningitis	Rabies	Yellow Fever	Malaria
Zambia	R	R	R	R	R	R	-	R	R*	R
Botswana	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	R	*	R
South Africa	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	-	R*	R

C = Compulsory, R = Recommended, R* = It is an immigration requirement to have a Yellow Fever certificate if travelling to Zambia from South Africa and in reverse. * = If travelling from infected countries a certificate of proof may be required.

NB: To be used as a guide only. Please see your GP or travel clinic for up-to-date medical advice. Alternatively, contact Rush Adventures for any queries or advice regarding vaccination requirements.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

Rush Adventures - Johannesburg
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The table below indicates the visas required for travel to the countries on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. At least one month prior to travel seek confirmation from embassies or a visa specialist, that these requirements are still current. For UK citizens the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) offers free up-to-date travel info: www.fco.gov.uk For other nationalities a number of travel advice websites are listed on the Rush Adventures website.

Nationality	UK	AUS	NZ	USA	CAN	BEL	IRE	NED	DEN	ITA	GER	AUT	SWE	FIN	NOR	MEX	KOR
Zambia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Botswana	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
South Africa	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No

NB The above is a guide only. Please check all visa requirements at least one month in advance of travel. Most nationalities do not need to obtain any of the above visas in advance. They are available at the border entry points and payable in US\$ cash.

MONEY MATTERS PERSONAL EXPENSES

Naturally you will require extra money for your own personal spending on the tour, for snacks, drinks, souvenirs, tips and items of a personal nature. Everybody has different spending habits but as a guideline we suggest you budget US\$10-15 per day. Most spending will be in Botswana Pula and South Africa Rand (for incidental expenses along the way, optional activities, most additional accommodation before/after the trip) but it's a good idea to bring along some US\$ cash for any international airport taxes or visas.

- **Spending money** is best carried as cash in either South Africa Rand cash or US dollars (US Dollars in clean, un-torn post 2005 edition notes), Sterling or Euro which can be exchanged into Kwacha on arrival and as you travel. Your guide will give general guidance about spending during the tour.

- **Currencies** are as follows: Zambia – Zambian Kwacha; Botswana – Pula; South Africa – Rand

- **ATM machines** are found in Livingstone, Botswana and throughout South Africa. Please note they are sometimes unreliable and only dispense local currency so therefore cannot be used to draw your Local Payment.

- **Credit cards** can be used to pay for larger optional activities although there may be a fee for their use.

- **Travellers cheques** can be difficult to cash but make suitable emergency funds.

TIPPING

As in many areas where tourism is an important contributor to the economy it has become customary to offer a small gratuity to local staff at the end of the tour if service has been of a high standard. Naturally this always remains at your discretion.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

In order to give you maximum flexibility on tour we offer a number of optional activities on the tour. To help budget, approximate prices are listed below (in US\$ unless otherwise stated. All prices subject to change and availability.

Activity	Price (US\$)	Activity	Price (US\$)
Livingstone		Lion Encounter	\$160
Abseiling/ Gorge Swing x 2	\$100-130	Zambezi Sunset Cruise	\$45
Zambezi Jet Boating & Cable Car	\$110	Bungy Jump over the Falls	\$130
Elephant back safari	\$160	Botswana	
Riverboarding	\$150	Okavango Delta Flight	\$80 - \$90



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Flights over the Falls (various modes)	\$140-280	Makgadigadi pans 4x4 sundowners trip	\$45
		Makgadigadi pans quad bike	\$38
		Chobe game drive	\$50

INSURANCE

It is a booking condition of Rush Adventures that you have full travel insurance valid for the duration of your tour to cover you for medical emergency and repatriation to your home country. Your guide will ask you for a copy of this when you join the tour. It is also important that you leave a copy of your insurance with the person nominated as your emergency contact. We can help provide specialist travel insurance for this tour through our local operator. Please contact Rush Adventures for more information.

RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

We strongly believe that you get the most out of a journey by respecting the culture and people of the places you visit. On our tours we try to travel in a way that benefits the communities we pass through and minimizes negative impact on the environment. This can be from ensuring the campsites we use are clean when we leave and dressing respectfully in conservative areas to getting involved with local charity projects. We ask that you are open to this when you travel with us. Being proactive in responsible travel helps develop cross-cultural understanding and friendships with the local people, and will greatly enhance your experience in Africa.

GET CONNECTED

Join our facebook group www.facebook.com/rushadventuresSA and get connected with other Rush Travellers, check out the pictures, videos and feedback from their tours and meet up with other people booked on your tour.

Follow us on twitter @rushadventures2 and get the latest buzz. Got a question? Ask us on twitter!

For information on our Overland Safaris, Rush Adventures Small Group Safaris, Short Safari's & Treks, Short Breaks & City Stays please visit www.rushadventures.com