



Coates Wildlife Tours
Specialist in nature tours since 1986

Trip Dossier

10 Day Botswana Wildlife Safari



Safari Small Group Tour - Max 12 passengers
Maun - Kasane 8 - 17 March 2020

Itinerary Highlights:

- Our top local Naturalist Leader, Alex Leatamo - born and raised in Botswana
- Twice daily game drives, giving you the opportunity to see the area's prolific wildlife
- 3 nights in a private mobile camp in the Okavango Delta
- 3 nights spent in the Central Kalahari desert staying at Tau Pan
- 3 nights in Chobe enjoying the Muchenie Safari Lodge, which delivers wonderful views of the Chobe River, the Caprivi Strip and seasonal flood plains
- Optional 2 nights tour add on at Victoria Falls, Ilala Lodge
- Private tour of the biodiversity centre in Kasane, which houses injured or orphaned animals such as endemic snakes, small mammals, raptors including owls.
- Private cruise on the Chobe river, fantastic for birding enthusiasts

We are going in the green season when the rains change the brown winter landscape into a lush green wonderland. Full-leafed acacia trees cast deep, cool shade over rolling green lawns; flowers leap up out of the sand, and crusty salt pans turn into shimmering wetlands full of honking waterbirds.

The clean-washed air makes colours richer and deeper and the cloud-stacked sunsets are more intense.

Wildlife is looking fit and healthy. Young offspring born in November and December are still small and it will be a treat to see this new life especially in the Kalahari and Chobe areas.

This is also the best time for photography in the Kalahari, where clouds and rainbows provide dramatic backdrops to your wildlife images.

Bird watching is at it's best as migrant species from Europe, Asia and other parts of Africa are in abundance. Even non-birders will get caught up in the excitement.

We charter flights between safari locations to maximise your time and comfort by avoiding the long drives over rough dirt roads. The views from the air are also pretty amazing.

You will enjoy traditional safari ambience in classic tented camps and lodges in some of Botswana's remote reserves.



Itinerary

Day 1 - Day 3: Maun - Central Kalahari Desert

You will arrive at Maun Airport. Patrick Bates - Operations Manager of Coates Wildlife Tours along with representatives from SGS and Moremi Air will meet you at the airport. You will then board your light aircraft flights to Tau Pan in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve. The flight is about 60 mins depending on which planes will be used. On arrival at the desert airstrip you will be met by Alex Leatamo and your SGS guides and drive to the desert lodge. After a cool drink and orientation enjoy relaxing in camp or a short afternoon game drive and sundowner near Tau Pan. In the evening Alex will give a short welcome chat about the itinerary ahead before you sit down to the first nights dinner in the bush. Tau Pan sits on top of an ancient sand dune ridge and commands amazing views over the Kalahari. The peace and quiet is astounding. From the camp you can enjoy game drives morning and afternoon and also a walk with your bushman tracker who will teach you how the San live of the land and survive in such harsh conditions. Desert species found in the Central Kalahari include oryx, springbok, the elusive brown hyena, bat eared fox and the black maned Kalahari lions.

Accommodation: Tau Pan Camp <http://www.kwando.co.bw/tau-pan> **Day 1 D - Days 2 & 3 BLD**

Day 4 - Day 6: Central Kalhahi Desert - Moremi Game Reserve in the Okavango Delta

On Day 4 you will fly from the Kalhari to Xakanaxa airstrip in the heart of the Moremi Game Reserve. Here you will driven to your private bush camp. After freshening up at your new camp and enjoying lunch and an orientation chat you can go on a short game drive to explore your new surroundings.

On Day 5 you have the whole day to explore Moremi Game Reserve on a morning game drive and an afternoon boat cruise through the channels of the delta. During the heat of the day you can enjoy lunch and a siesta in camp.

On Day 6 enjoy exploring a different area of Moremi on AM and PM game drives.

Moremi is the protected extension of the Okavango Delta and offers a typical wetland system with grassy plains and pans surrounded by well-developed mopane forests and riverine woodland. Huge breeding herds of elephant are common as are lechwe, waterbuck, impala, hippos. One can also hope to see buffalo, giraffe, bushbuck, lion, wild dog, leopard, cheetah, black-backed and side-striped jackal, zebra, wildebeest, tsessebe, bush babies, fruit bats, sable, kudu, roan, steenbok, duiker, honey badger. The birdlife includes water birds as well as dry land birds.

Accommodation: SGS private mobile camp <http://sgsafrica.com/mobile-safaris/> **BLD**

Day 7 - Day 9: Okavanga Delta - Chobe

On Day 7 you will say good bye to the SGS mobile camp team at Xakanaxa airstrip and fly to Kasane airport (approx. 60-90 min flight). Upon arrival in Kasane you will be met by representatives from Muchenje Lodge and drive 1 hour on a tar road through the park to the lodge arriving in time for lunch and an afternoon activity.

Muchenje Safari Lodge provides some of Botswana's finest safari accommodation, in Chobe. Situated on the western edge of the Chobe National park, Muchenje offers unique, prolific game experiences. This is one of the best wildlife viewing areas in the whole of Botswana, if not all of Africa!

Accommodation is in twin/double chalets overlooking the Chobe floodplain and activities include game drives into Chobe National park, a boat cruise on the Chobe River and nature walks. Northern Chobe is famous for its huge elephant & buffalo herds, puku, kudu, Chobe bushbuck and hippo as

well as diverse bird life. One could also hope to see: lion, leopard, wild dog, giraffe, waterbuck, zebra, impala.

On Day 8 enjoy a choice of game drives, relaxing at the lodge or undertake a village visit.

On Day 9 you will be transferred to Kasane for a 3 hour boat cruise on the Chobe river with packed lunch then there will be a private tour of the biodiversity centre in Kasane followed by a lecture on current conservation and environmental issues in the Chobe area. You will arrive back to Muchenje in the mid- later afternoon.

Accommodation: Muchenje Safari Lodge

<http://www.muchenje.com>

BLD

Day 10: Chobe - Kasane

Today marks the end of your Botswana Adventure with Coates. After Breakfast you will say goodbye to Alex and will be driven from Chobe to Kasane Airport. From here you can begin your homeward travels or continue on to other exciting adventures. Drop off at approximately 12 midday.

NOTE: the above itinerary may be varied according to conditions and advice.

Optional 2 night Victoria Falls add-on.

Since you have travelled all this way you may wish to travel a little further. Only a few hours drive from Chobe is the natural wonder of Victoria Falls. As an optional extra, rather than being transferred to Kasane you can add on an extra 2 nights at Victoria Falls. You will be transferred to the Ilala Lodge <http://www.ilalalodge.com>. While at the Ilala Lodge you are only a short walk from the falls that you can enjoy at your own leisure. Victoria Falls is home to a myriad of activities for the energetic traveler or for those who just want to relax, including bungee jumping, white water rafting, boat cruises and African market shopping. (All activities at additional cost and can be organised at the Victoria Falls activities desk). After your 2 nights at Victoria Falls you will be transferred to the Victoria Falls Airport for your onward travel.

Ilala Lodge Hotel is the perfect base from which to explore one of the World's Seven Natural Wonders, the majestic Victoria Falls. A standout amongst Victoria Falls hotels and lodges, it provides distinguished yet affordable, boutique accommodation in gracious and secluded surroundings. With just 56 rooms and suites on the property, guests can look forward to personalised service and world-class hospitality throughout the duration of their visit.



Tour Costs

Cost:	USD \$6,975.00 USD \$720.00	Per Person Twin Share Single Supplement
Optional post tour extension	USD \$490.00 USD \$80.00	Victoria Falls Extension Single Supplement
Departs:	Maun - Botswana	8 March 2020
Finishes:	Kasane - Botswana	17 March 2020

Prices have been based on all known costs and current rates of exchange. Any significant changes beyond our control will be passed onto passengers.

Tour Payment

Deposit: At time of booking **USD**\$750.00 per person.

In order to secure your place you will need to book and pay your deposit of just USD\$750.00 per person by the 8 July 2019.

Final Payment: On or before 8 December 2019

All deposits and payments are non refundable

Note: The deposit is non refundable and the final payment is non refundable if cancelled after 8 December 2019.

We strongly recommend purchasing travel Insurance to help protect you and your travel investment.

Included

- Fully escorted tour
- Meals as per itinerary (B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner)
- Twin share accommodation in camp chalets, mobile safari camp and lodge
- Porterage on arrival
- Meet and greet at Maun Airport
- 10 days with a naturalist guide
- Game viewing & activities as per itinerary
- Tipping on tour
- National Park Fees
- Internal flights and ground transport
- Beverages where indicated in accommodation information
- Complimentary laundry service at Tau Pan Camp & Muchenje Lodge
- Porterage on departure

Not Included

- International airfares to Maun and from Kasane and accompanying airport and airline taxes
- Any meals not included in the itinerary
- Any required visas
- Personal travel and medical evacuation insurance (compulsory)
- All other personal expenses
- Any pre and post tour accommodation
- Any transit accommodation between Australia and Botswana
- Alcoholic or carbonated drinks unless stated

Accommodation

Mobile Bush Campsite in Moremi Game Reserve is the ultimate authentic mobile experience in large Mini Meru Tents allowing a comfortable yet rustic private mobile safari. This mobile safari is run on a fully private basis and is fully inclusive of game drive activities, drinks and meals and has full beds and thick camp mattresses for extra comfort. Each tent has an adjoining ensuite bathroom with long drop toilet and bucket shower.

Bar: wine glasses & tumblers; full cold bar (bottled water, selection of soft drinks, beer, red or white wine at dinner - as per client request. Gin/whiskey/Brandy/Amarula/Tonic included)



Tau Pan Camp is situated inside the world famous Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR) right on the edge of the beautiful Tau Pan. Guests are accommodated in 9 rooms under thatch, designed and built to remain cool in the summer months and warm in winter. Each room has an ensuite with a separate flushing toilet, double sinks and an inside and outside shower. The rooms have large double or twin beds, a lounge area and a viewing deck with amazing views.

The main area is open plan, under thatch. The building and décor has been planned and finished to blend into the local landscape. There is the dining area and a lounge/bar area as well as a curio shop. The main deck houses a plunge pool with views of Tau Pan and beyond and the nearby permanent waterhole where animals come to quench their thirst.



Muchenje Safari Lodge sits on an escarpment within the Chobe Forest Reserve on the quieter western side of Botswana's Chobe National Park, with wonderful views of the Chobe River, the Caprivi Strip and seasonal flood plains.

Being owner run, Muchenje Safari Lodge allows for a more personalised service and homely atmosphere, with experienced managers and guides looking after you every step of the way. (Laundry, selected beverages included).



Tour Information

Coates Escort: Patrick Bates

Botswana Wildlife specialist: Alex Leatamo

Meals:

Meals as indicated on the itinerary are included. Special dietary requirements can usually be catered for. Please advise any special requirements at the time of booking. A surcharge may apply.

Physical Requirements:

Easy to moderate.

Weather:

We can expect temperatures to range from 17 - 35 degrees C. Mostly sunny, moderate humidity and average rainfall of approx 61mm. There may be some afternoon storms in the Delta.

Clothing:

A suggested list of items to bring on tour will be included in our pre-departure information which will be sent to you on full payment of tour costs. However comfortable casual clothing is recommended. Light shirts and T-shirts during the day and a light weight rain jacket.

Travel Insurance:

Personal travel insurance (including medical evacuation) is compulsory for the safari tour. Please contact Coates for further information or if you would like to receive a quote.



To make a booking or for further information please contact

Tom or Sylvia Grove at Coates Wildlife Tours

P.O. Box 4502

Myaree BC, Myaree, WA 6960

Phone: 08 9330 6066 Free Call Country & Interstate: 1800 676 016

Email: coates@iinet.net.au Web: www.coateswildlifetours.com.au

Terms and Conditions

Adina Nominees Pty Ltd (ACN 075 427 324) as trustee for the Grove Family Trust trading as Coates Wildlife Tours (hereinafter referred to as the tour operator) shall not be liable for any accident injury sickness delay irregularity or damage however caused or arising during any tour under its management or otherwise. Tours are often safari trips to isolated areas, they may include off road driving, bushwalking, snorkelling, swimming and other activities. These along with wildlife interactions, planned or otherwise involve a certain degree of risk. All travel involves some measure of personal risk that each passenger has to determine and accept.

Tour participants should be in reasonable health and fitness and be carrying all required medications in ample quantities. A medical clearance from a registered medical practitioner may be required for participants wishing to join some tours. Scenic flights, boat cruises, helicopter flights etc. These activities are not operated by the tour operator, nor by persons or companies associated with the tour operator. These activities involve inherent risk of injury, death, accident and loss. Passengers assume all risks with regard to any misadventure death, injury or loss which occurs during or as a result of any such activity.

Should the tour operator deem it desirable for climatic or other reasons whatsoever to amend or vary any itinerary it may do so by shortening or varying the trip in which case no objection or claim for compensation will be made by the participant.

The tour operator and its employees are unable to guarantee exact arrival and departure times, and are not liable for any failure to make connections with any other services.

The tour operator does not own or operate any third party suppliers of air transportation, hotels, restaurants, cruise craft or local sightseeing companies. The tour operator is not responsible for any loss or expense due to overbooking of flights, accommodations, default of any third parties or any other cause beyond its control. The tour operator takes all reasonable care in selecting these operators, it cannot accept responsibility for the operators conduct or the conduct of their employees or agents or for any ramifications of that conduct.

Whilst all care is taken, The tour operator do not accept liability for loss or damage to baggage, sickness or injury, or additional expenses caused by factors beyond their control.

All care has been taken to ensure this brochure is correct at the time of printing. Prices and services as shown in this brochure are however subject to change or withdrawal without notice.

BOOKING DETAILS

DEPOSIT: See the relevant trip dossiers for the amount required.

FINAL PAYMENT: In most cases, final payment is required at least 30 days prior to departure. However some tours may requirement payment up to 4 months prior to departure. Please refer to the tour's trip dossier for exact details.

CANCELLATIONS

Coates Wildlife Tours reserves the right to cancel any tour in the event of minimum numbers not being reached, in which case all moneys will be refunded in full.

In respect of cancellations by a passenger, some tours have specified cancellation times and penalties, this specific information is available on the respective tours, trip dossier. Where no specific cancellation time or penalties are in place the following levies plus any costs charged by other parties involved with the tour will apply:-

Where written notice is received

- Deposit is non refundable
- Tour balance is non refundable after the 8 December 2019
- No refunds are considered from the day the tour starts.

INSURANCE

We strongly recommend that travel insurance against imposition of cancellation fees, loss or damage to baggage and extra costs arising from injury or illness be effected.

GENERAL INFORMATION

EQUIPMENT:- Transport by an air-conditioned our coach or mini bus which ever is appropriate for the tour.

GENERAL INFORMATION CONT.

SEAT ALLOCATION:- Seats on tour vehicle are not pre allocated. To ensure all participants get to enjoy forward positioned and window seats we have incorporated a daily seat rotation system.

LUGGAGE:- Please note that due to health and safety requirements luggage on tour is limited to one medium sized, soft sided bag per person. The sum of its length, width and height is not to exceed 140 cm. The maximum weight of the bag should not to exceed 15 kilograms. A small day pack is also permitted. International tours, some island tours and the Kimberley Coastal Cruises luggage limits may vary, please see the respective tours trip dossier for specific weight maximums.

WILDLIFE:- Sighting of birds, or animals mentioned in the itineraries can not be guaranteed as they are wild and therefore free to come and go as they please.

WILDFLOWER DISPLAYS:- Can not be guaranteed as they are dependent on seasonal rains.

MEAL SYMBOLS:- B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

GROUP SIZES

Minimum and maximum numbers apply to all tours. Generally tours have a maximum of 12 passengers. A camp cook and a naturalist leader will accompany camping groups with more than 6 passengers.