Discovering Our Planet Together



Family Botswana Safari

From Desert to Delta, an Exhilarating Adventure to Thrill Safari-Goers of All Ages

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Trip Details:

Days
10 Days / Jun–Aug, Dec

Price
From $14895 (+Air)

Family Botswana Safari

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For families, there's no topping the adventure of an African safari—and in Africa, it's tough to top Botswana. Big game is abundant, and we get amazingly close to elephants, lions and much more from authentic tented safari camps deep in the bush and far from crowds. In a world of vanishing natural treasures, the chance for a family to experience Africa's wonders together is an unsurpassed gift. As you watch a cheetah sprint across the savanna or study the green glow of a hyena's eyes at night, "wild life" takes on a whole new meaning! Our family-focused itinerary is designed for all generations, to maximize diversity of locations and experiences, and to keep young minds captivated. From the vast expanse of the Kalahari Desert with its sprawling salt pans to the emerald marshes of the Okavango Delta and the thunder of Victoria Falls, our Botswana family safari unveils new thrills day by day.

Trip Highlights

Wildlife Excitement for Every Generation

Delve into the game-rich Okavango Delta and Kalahari Desert with an expert naturalist guide specifically chosen to foster fun and learning for kids

Explore via Varied & Engaging Safari Activities

Relish the abundant comforts of authentic luxury bush camps, and discover diverse wildlife habitats by 4x4, bush walks, quad bike, boat and poled canoe

See Victoria Falls & Enjoy a Nearby Village Visit

Stand before the thunder of Victoria Falls, the largest sheet of falling water on Earth, and visit a nearby village to meet local children and learn about their lives

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Family Botswana Safari Itinerary

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Itinerary at a Glance

Days 1–2	Maun / Kalahari Desert
Days 3–5	Eastern Kalahari / Makgadikgadi Pans
Days 6–8	Okavango Delta / Khwai Private Reserve
Day 9	Khwai Private Reserve / Victoria Falls
Day 10	Victoria Falls



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Days 1–2

Maun / Kalahari Desert

Encounter Kalahari wildlife along the Boteti River

- Watch elephants at eye level from a floating hide on the Boteti River
- Look for zebras, giraffes, gemsbok, springbok and other desert wildlife
- Walk with San guides who share their culture and knowledge of the Kalahari

Our Botswana family safari begins in Maun, where our Expedition Leader meets us at the airport. Then we're off for Makgadikgadi Pans National Park in the Kalahari Desert—360,000 square miles of sandy, semi-arid savanna that sustains a surprising amount of wildlife. The Makgadikgadi Pans formed when an ancient lake evaporated thousands of years ago, and these shallow depressions are all that remain of once-enormous Lake Makgadikgadi. Today, this vast expanse of salt glitters in the intense dry-season sun, evoking a moonscape, but seasonal rains turn the pans into an important habitat for migrating animals, including Africa's second-largest zebra and wildebeest migration, along with the predators that pursue them.

Our first two days reveal the park's western reaches, where a multitude of game ranges across a landscape of scrub, palms, riverine trees and grassy plains. Our classic tented safari camp overlooks the Boteti River, a lifeline flowing through these parched environs that attracts animals stopping for a drink in front of camp—oryx, gemsbok, springbok, zebra, red hartebeest, wildebeest, Kalahari lion, cheetah, hyena, jackal and ostrich are often on view, along with many smaller mammals, birds and reptiles.

Varied activities will delight family members of all ages, including a 4x4 wildlife drive with a picnic lunch in the bush, and a rare opportunity for a walking safari with local Kalahari bushmen who reveal as much about their indigenous culture as the native plants and wildlife we observe. As the sun sets, enjoy sundowners overlooking the river escarpment where we may view elephants at close range. We often see lounging crocodiles, too—our camp's namesake.

Days 3–5

Eastern Kalahari / Makgadikgadi Pans

Meet meerkats and explore the Makgadikgadi salt pans

- Spend time with a habituated colony of wild meerkats
- Ride quad bikes across the shimmering salt pans
- Experience some of Africa's finest stargazing from camp

On Day 3, transfer by road to the eastern side of the Kalahari, skirting Makgadigkadi Pans National Park on an overland journey to the best location for accessing the park's vast salt pans. Along the way, learn about the giant baobabs that dot the flat expanse. These quirky-looking ancient trees, prominent landmarks on this terrain for centuries, average more than 4,000 years old.

Our tented camp rests on the edge of the world's largest salt pan, an oasis of comfort shaded by acacias and palms. The Makgadikgadi Pans formed when an ancient lake evaporated thousands of years ago, and these shallow depressions are all that remain of once-enormous Lake Makgadikgadi. Today, this vast expanse of salt glitters in the intense dry-season sun, evoking a moonscape. The only visible plant life is a thin layer of blue-green algae, but seasonal rains will later turn the pans into an important habitat for migrating animals, including wildebeest and one of Africa's largest zebra populations, along with the predators that pursue them. During our visit, look for unusual desert-adapted creatures on private game drives as we head out in search of gemsbok, springbok, red hartebeest, steenbok and many small mammals, birds and reptiles. We'll also interact with a friendly habituated colony of meerkats. Quad bikes offer an exciting way to explore the lunar-like surface of the pans. Back at camp each night, enjoy some of the best stargazing on the planet.

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Days 6–8

Okavango Delta / Khwai Private Reserve

Search for wildlife across Khwai's waterways and floodplains

- Look for lions, leopards and African wild dogs across the private reserve
- Explore reed-lined channels by mokoro with local polers when water levels permit
- Watch elephants and buffalo gather at the camp lagoon

Fly by light aircraft this morning into the contrasting environment of the Okavango Delta. Here in northwest Botswana, the Okavango River fans out over the Kalahari sands to create the world's largest inland delta—5,800 square miles of marsh, clear channels, lagoons and islands comprising a mosaic of diverse wildlife habitat. In 2014, the Okavango Delta became the 1,000th site to be officially inscribed on the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites.

Our destination is the massive Khwai wildlife reserve, a community concession encompassing riverine woodlands, floodplains, mopane forest and open grasslands. Bordering the famous Moremi Game Reserve, the private conservancy lies along the Khwai River that is a lifeline for the region. Elephants abound, and year-round wildlife includes waterbuck, reedbuck and many antelope species, including red lechwe, along with frequent sightings of lion, leopard and spotted hyena. Khwai's varied habitats also support abundant giraffe, wild dog and the majestic sable antelope for which our camp, Sable Alley, is named. In addition, more than 450 bird species have been recorded. We explore on wildlife drives and by mokoro, the traditional poled canoe of the delta, giving local polers a chance to share their deep knowledge of this ecosystem and how it has sustained their people for generations. Occasionally, when conditions permit, we may also explore on foot with an armed guide.

Our eco-conscious camp on the banks of a peaceful lagoon is part of a community-based partnership that bridges safari tourism with Khwai village life, enhancing economic stability for the local people. Wildlife literally comes to us as elephant, buffalo and herds of plains game arrive to drink. Seasonal waterholes often attract lion, hyena, eland, zebra and kudu, plus an assortment of smaller nocturnal species such as porcupine, genet, jackal and honey badger.

Day 9

Khwai Private Reserve / Victoria Falls

Fly from the Okavango to the thunder of Victoria Falls

- Travel by light aircraft from the Khwai Reserve
- Walk the rim of Victoria Falls with a private guide
- Join your Expedition Leader for a farewell dinner

Following a last morning wildlife activity on the Khwai Reserve, depart by light aircraft for Kasane, Botswana. After border formalities, continue by road to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, where we have a privately guided tour of Victoria Falls. The massive cataract is located inside Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, whose name in the local language means "the smoke that thunders," referring to the mighty falls and its abundant spray. The falls and park together comprise a UNESCO World Heritage Site that spans both sides of the Zambezi River, encompassing terrain in both Zimbabwe and Zambia. We follow a network of trails along the rim to a variety of magnificent vantage points over the mile-wide cataract, whichhich plummets 350 feet into the Zambezi Gorge below. This evening, our Expedition Leader hosts a festive farewell dinner.

Please note: *In 2027, our itinerary will include a flight from the Khwai Reserve directly to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, removing the land border crossing and drive from Kasane, Botswana.*

Day 10

Victoria Falls

Meet local families before departing Zambia

- Visit a nearby village for insight into daily life
- Transfer to Victoria Falls Airport for departing flights

This morning, choose to relax or visit a nearby village where kids will love the opportunity to meet African children. Just outside the hustle and bustle of the Victoria Falls tourist zone, we interact with locals tending their crops or going about their chores, enjoying a glimpse into daily rural life. It's a fitting finale to our Botswana family safari, which comes to a close as we transfer to the Victoria Falls airport to meet departing flights later this morning.

Click here *to view the seasonal variations of weather and wildlife viewing in Botswana.*

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Family Botswana Safari Accommodations

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Meno a Kwena

Situated between the Okavango Delta and the Central Kalahari Game Reserve near Makgadikgadi Pans National Park, this stylish camp overlooks the Boteti River, a magnet for wildlife.



Camp Kalahari

Nestled among acacias and Mokolwane palms on Hyena Island at the edge of the vast Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, 10 spacious Meru tents occupy the historic site of storied expeditions.



Sable Alley

This newly rebuilt bush camp on the edge of the private Khwai wildlife reserve is a part of a community-based partnership with a keen sensitivity for the environment and local culture.



Ilala Lodge

This luxurious boutique hotel enjoys an exclusive setting on the Zimbabwe side of the Zambezi Gorge—geographically, it is the closest accommodation to Victoria Falls, accessible via an easy walk.

For detailed descriptions, visit nathab.com/family-adventures/family-botswana-safari/accommodations.

The Difference in a Nat Hab Family Safari

Family Botswana Safari

Every family-focused safari in Botswana is *not* the same. It's important to compare crucial features like itinerary inclusions, vehicles and window seats, accommodation style and locations, group size, etc., so you can be sure the safari of your family's dreams is exactly that! When you see how we stack up, we can't imagine you'd choose any other family safari adventure.

1 **A Small, Personalized Family Safari**

Our Family Botswana Safari is limited to just 13 guests, divided into two safari vehicles—the perfect size for a multi-generational family, or an opportunity to share an intimate family experience with another small family group or two, for added fun and companionship.

2 **You Won't Find a More Diverse Itinerary**

When you're traveling with kids, variety is important. Safari-goers of all ages will be wowed by our wide-ranging itinerary that takes you from the arid expanse of the Kalahari Desert into the watery reaches of the Okavango Delta—plus a visit to mighty Victoria Falls! And it's not just destinations that are diverse; we include a host of different activities, too, from classic game drives to guided safari walks, poled mokoro (canoe) excursions, boat rides, and even a quad bike outing across the salt pans. No one will be remotely bored on this exciting journey.

3 **Private Reserves Offer Special Activities**

Rather than staying in more heavily visited national parks, we concentrate on remote, uncrowded private reserves. Here, in addition to traditional wildlife drives, we have the chance to get out of the truck (always important with kids) and enjoy safely guided bush walks in the company of our Expedition Leader. In addition, we take exciting night drives in search of nocturnal creatures. These are exclusive advantages, since these activities are not permitted in the national parks.

4 **Small, Secluded Camps Offer Memorable Accommodations**

Ambiance means a lot on safari. So does your proximity to the animal life that your family traveled so far to see. Stay at intimate, isolated camps that immerse us in nature amid profuse wildlife, rather than other tourists.

5 **Chartered Flights Maximize Your Comfort and Time**

Rather than subject your family to long, rough overland drives, we opt for several light aircraft transfers between camps and regions. This means you have more time to spend on safari making great memories together—plus you'll have some pretty amazing aerial views of Botswana's varied landscapes and their wild inhabitants.

6 **Open "Window" Seats Are A Priority**

The private state-of-the-art safari vehicles we charter have open sides and nine cushioned passenger seats or shared benches—one in front next to the driver, followed by three rows of three seats each—though we limit our capacity to just seven travelers in each vehicle on wildlife drives for maximum comfort, viewing and photo opportunities. This means a window seat for everyone, though extra-secure middle seats are available for the littlest ones, if preferred.

7 **The World's Finest Safari Guides**

Natural Habitat Adventures is known for employing the finest naturalist guides on the planet. Our Family Botswana Safari includes your own private Expedition Leader for the duration of the trip. Our Expedition Leaders are the most highly trained guides in Africa, renowned for providing exceptional service. Those who lead our family safaris have a special rapport with kids and a knack for discerning and balancing the needs and interests of different generations traveling together. Our Expedition Leaders average 15 years' guiding experience in Africa, and their training is enhanced by access to resources from WWF's top scientists. **See Expedition Leader bios** with traveler comments regarding the quality of our leaders. In addition, we have support from well-qualified local camp guides who assist with driving and interpretation at each location.

8 **Our Quality-Value Guarantee Ensures Your Superior Family Safari**

Natural Habitat Adventures offers an exclusive guarantee, which states that we will meet the lofty expectations we set forth in our promotional materials. To our knowledge, this is the most ambitious guarantee made by any adventure travel company. **Read our important promise.**

9 **Feel Good About Your Carbon-Neutral Journey**

We care deeply about our planet, as we know you do. When you travel with us, the carbon emissions from your trip are 100% offset—including your round-trip flights from home. Natural Habitat Adventures has been the world's first carbon-neutral travel company since 2007.

10 **Natural Habitat Adventures is WWF's Travel Partner**

Because of our commitment to environmentally friendly travel, as well as the exceptional quality of our adventures, World Wildlife Fund—the world's leading environmental conservation organization—has named Natural Habitat Adventures as its worldwide travel partner, a designation that makes us exceedingly proud!



Dates & Pricing Summary:

Price
From $14895 (+Air)

Group Size
Limited to 13 Travelers

Family Botswana Safari Dates, Pricing & Info

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2026 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Dec 19 - Dec 28, 2026	**$14895** +internal air	
Dec 22 - Dec 31, 2026	**$14895** +internal air	

2027 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Jun 4 - Jun 13, 2027	**$15895** +internal air	
Jun 13 - Jun 22, 2027	**$15895** +internal air	
Jun 18 - Jun 27, 2027	**$15895** +internal air	
Jul 2 - Jul 11, 2027	**$15895** +internal air	
Jul 16 - Jul 25, 2027	**$15895** +internal air	

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Jul 23 - Aug 1, 2027	**$15895** +internal air	
Aug 6 - Aug 15, 2027	**$15895** +internal air	
Aug 20 - Aug 29, 2027	**$15895** +internal air	
Aug 27 - Sep 5, 2027	**$15895** +internal air	
Dec 19 - Dec 28, 2027	**$15895** +internal air	

2028 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Prices not confirmed for 2028		
Jun 16 - Jun 25, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Jun 23 - Jul 2, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Jun 30 - Jul 9, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Jul 7 - Jul 16, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Jul 16 - Jul 25, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Jul 21 - Jul 30, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Jul 28 - Aug 6, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Jul 31 - Aug 9, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Aug 6 - Aug 15, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Aug 11 - Aug 20, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Dec 19 - Dec 28, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	
Dec 22 - Dec 31, 2028	**From $15895** +internal air	

See https://www.nathab.com/family-adventures/family-botswana-safari/dates-fees for the latest pricing details.

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Included

Trip price includes: Accommodations in intimate safari camps, services of Nat Hab's professional Expedition Leader(s), local guides and camp staff, premier open-sided 4-wheel drive Land Cruisers or Rovers, all meals from dinner on Day 1 through breakfast on final day, some alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, airport transfers on Day 1 and final day, all activities and entrance fees, all taxes, permits and service fees.

Not Included

Travel to and from the start and end point of your trip, some alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees (if any), optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, laundry, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes (if any), required medical evacuation insurance, optional travel protection insurance.

Internal air: All light aircraft flights within the itinerary (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

Important Information About This Trip

We have designed this family safari for those guests whose African dreams include the most remote wildlife experience available and who don't require over-the-top accommodations to accomplish that goal. On these trips, changes to the itinerary may occur in order to take advantage of conditions unique to the season. Depending upon availability, itineraries may run in a different order.

Age Limit on Family Botswana Safaris

We welcome children age 6 and older on our Family Botswana Safaris. However, while some 6-year-olds are well suited for our Botswana adventures, others may not be ready for the requirements of group travel. We believe it's best to consider this minimum age limit a guideline—you, as a parent or guardian, are best qualified to decide whether your child would enjoy the experience without compromising the comfort of others. We strongly encourage you to speak with one of our Adventure Specialists about the specific requirements of the trip so you can make an informed decision. We do not permit children younger than 6 on our scheduled departures due to safety regulations, physical limitations and concerns regarding group dynamics. Depending on the age of the child, children must be matched in rooms with adults for safety purposes and due to camp regulations in Botswana. Additionally, children under 13 years old are not generally able to participate in the traditional mokoro boat rides for safety reasons and children must be 16 years or older to participate in longer, optional safari walks. Alternative activities will be provided for children as appropriate.

Mandatory Insurance

Since the areas we travel to on this trip are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we require medical evacuation insurance for our guests' safety. If you decline the medical evacuation insurance coverage offered by Natural Habitat, we request that you send us documentation of the independent coverage you have selected. We will add the cost of a medical evacuation policy to your tour invoice until you provide our office with proof of coverage including your insurance company's name, contact number and your individual policy number. Thank you for understanding that our policy exists exclusively in the interest of our guests' safety.

Getting There & Getting Home

This trip begins in Maun, Botswana, and ends in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Because this is a long international journey, **we recommend that you arrive at least one night prior to Day 1** to rest from your travels and begin the trip refreshed. For guests

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who come in early, recommended hotels will be included in your pre-departure materials. You must arrive in Maun by 1:45 pm on Day 1 in order to join the group for the first scheduled activities.

You may depart Victoria Falls anytime after 1 pm on the final day.

Our Natural Habitat Adventures Nat Hab Air Team can best assist with your travel reservations, as our staff is familiar with the specific requirements of this program and can help arrange the most efficient itinerary. Please call us at 800-543-8917. While we offer the best available rates to us on airfare and additional nights' accommodations, you may occasionally find special web rates or lower fares online.



Family Botswana Safari Extensions

From Desert to Delta, an Exhilarating Adventure to Thrill Safari-Goers of All Ages



Madagascar Explorer

Look for rare and endemic flora and fauna on a compact itinerary revealing a mix of contrasting ecosystems—primary rainforest, pristine beaches, ancient baobabs and coastal mangroves

$13895 (+air)



Cape Town Extension

Discover one of the world's most entrancing cities and its natural environs. Survey the view from Table Mountain, explore the Cape Peninsula, visit Cape Point Nature Reserve, see penguins at Boulders Beach, and tour the Winelands.

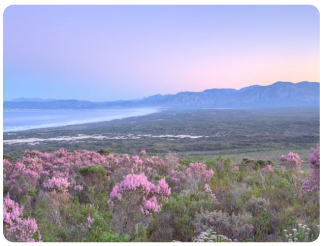
$2495



Namibia Desert Extension

Namibia's towering sand dunes, arid canyons and desert-adapted wildlife offer a distinct contrast to other southern Africa safari destinations—look for endangered black rhino, desert elephant and more.

$7395 (+air)



Wild Cape Coast Extension

From our luxury ecolodge base on the Grootbos Private Nature Reserve, explore pristine coastal wilderness including the rare Cape Floral plant kingdom and Stony Point penguin colony.

$3595



Sabi Sand Extension

An exclusive safari experience on a 160,000-acre private reserve that's one of Africa's best places to spot the famous Big Five—choose among intimate luxury camps and secluded boutique lodges.

$5495

Natural Habitat & WWF: Discovering Our Planet Together

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WWF's membership travel program is operated by Natural Habitat Adventures (Nat Hab). To date, Nat Hab has provided more than $6 million in support of WWF's mission and will continue to give 1% of gross sales plus $175,000 annually through 2028. WWF® and ©1986 Panda Symbol are owned by WWF. All rights reserved.