

# 21 NIGHT BOTSWANA CIRCUIT

## GABORONE- GABORONE

### ITINERARY

#### DURATION OF STAY:

21 NIGHTS

#### ACCOMMODATION TYPE:

SELF CATERING AND MOTELS

#### PRICE:

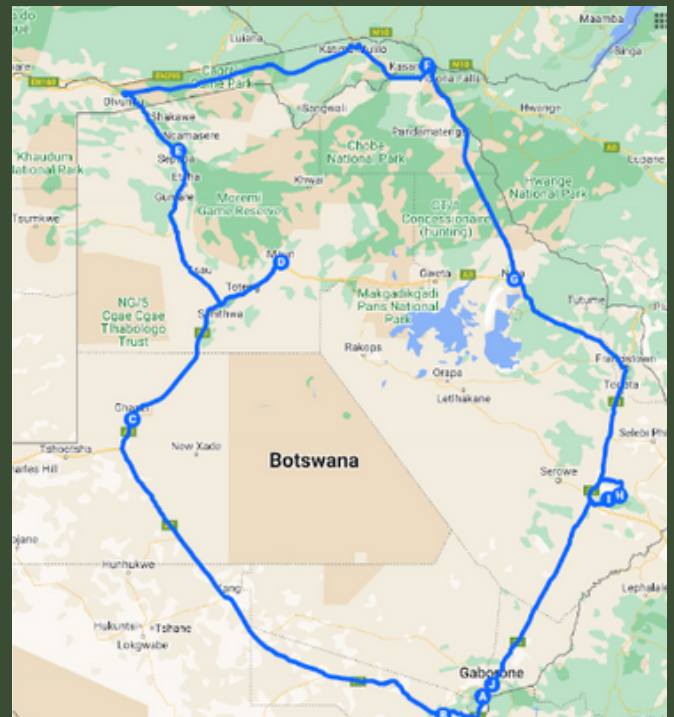
FROM USD 5200 PER COUPLE

INCLUDES RENTAL CAR

BOTSWANA HAS 12 IBAS COVERING 25% OF THE COUNTRY. THERE ARE 5.5 MILLION HA OF RAMSAR WETLANDS AND 614 SPECIES OF BIRDS. IT'S A WONDERFUL COUNTRY FOR A BIRDWATCHING ROAD TRIP.

THIS ITINERARY IS DESIGNED FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SLOW DOWN AND ENJOY THE DIFFERENT BIRDING AREAS IN BOTSWANA. MANY ARE NOT ON THE USUAL TOURIST ROUTE. SUMMER IS THE BEST TIME TO COME AS ROUGHLY 50% OF THE AVIFAUNA ARE MIGRANTS.

THIS ITINERARY TAKES YOU TO 11 OF THE 12 BOTSWANA IBAS, AND GIVES YOU A CHANCE TO SEE THE ENTIRE AVIFAUNA. THE ONLY IBA OMITTED IS THE K GALAGADI TRANSFRONTIER PARK, WHICH CAN EASILY BE ADDED IF YOU HAVE AN EXTRA FEW NIGHTS AVAILABLE.



SELF DRIVE  
TOURS  
BOTSWANA

# 21 NIGHT BOTSWANA BIRDING CIRCUIT



BOTSWANA IS A GREAT PLACE TO TRAVEL. THERE ARE DIFFERENT CULTURES AND CUSTOMS TO EXPERIENCE IN DIFFERENT CORNERS OF THE COUNTRY AND THE WILDLIFE VIEWING IS SUPERB. THE MAIN ROADS ARE GOOD, MOST OF THE POPULATION SPEAKS ENGLISH AND IT IS ONE OF THE SAFEST COUNTRIES IN AFRICA.

WE CREATE BESPOKE ITINERARIES FOR EACH OF OUR CUSTOMERS TO MATCH THEIR TIME, INTERESTS, ACCOMMODATION PREFERENCES AND BUDGET. SO DON'T HESITATE TO GET IN TOUCH



IN THE ITINERARY BELOW THE IBAS VISITED ARE ITALICISED. PRICING INCLUDES ALL ACCOMMODATION AND ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED, AND THE COST OF A RENTAL CAR WITH UNLIMITED MILEAGE. NOTE THAT THE PRICING IS BASED ON TWO PEOPLE SHARING ACCOMMODATION. MEALS ARE NOT INCLUDED.



SELF DRIVE  
TOURS  
BOTSWANA

DAY

0

ARRIVE IN  
GABORONE

BE MET AT THE AIRPORT AND GIVEN A PACK INCLUDING A COPY OF HANCOCK & WEIERSBYE'S 'BIRDS OF BOTSWANA', ALONG WITH ALL OF YOUR TRAVELING DOCUMENTS AND OUR OWN COMPREHENSIVE GUIDEBOOK.

THEN ENJOY A RELAXING AFTERNOON BOAT CRUISE ON THE NOTWANE RIVER WHERE YOU ARE BOUND TO SEE A WIDE VARIETY OF BIRDS AND CROCODILES. THE BOAT IS SPECIALLY SET UP FOR BIRDWATCHING WITH A SILENT ELECTRIC MOTOR.

DAY

1

THE PHAKALANE SEWAGE LAGOONS AND BOKAA DAM ARE TWO GREAT BIRDING SPOTS WITHIN EASY REACH OF MOKOLODI.

ACCOMMODATION : MOKOLODI GAME RESERVE

DAY

2

ENJOY THE BIRD LIFE AT MOKOLODI THEN HEAD OUT TO MANNYELANONG HILL CAPE VULTURE COLONY. YOU WILL HAVE ALREADY MET SOME OF THE VULTURES AS MOKOLODI GAME RESERVE IS PART OF THEIR CIRCUIT.

ACCOMMODATION : MOKOLODI GAME RESERVE

DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE) : 110 KM / 2 HOURS

DAY

3

TRAVEL SOUTH AND DISCOVER THE BIRDLIFE OF THE SOUTHEAST GRASSLANDS VISITING PELOTSHETLA AND THE KGORO PAN NEAR GOODHOPE. THE BEST CHANCE TO ENCOUNTER THE BOTSWANA SHORT-CLAWED LARK, AN UNCOMMON NEAR ENDEMIC. PELOTSHETLA IS ALSO HOME TO A POPULATION OF STONE PLANTS (LIVING STONES) WHICH ARE NATIVE TO THIS PART OF THE WORLD. YOUR NIGHT'S ACCOMMODATION IS WITHIN EASY WALKING DISTANCE OF THE MMAKGODUMO DAM BIRD RESERVE AND PHARING GORGE.

ACCOMMODATION : KGOGOMODUMO LODGE

DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE) : 210 KM / 3 HOURS



SELF DRIVE  
TOURS  
BOTSWANA

DAY  
4

TIME TO HEAD WEST TO GHANZI .THIS IS THE LONGEST DRIVING DAY WITH JUST A HANDFUL OF VILLAGES ALONG THE WAY. BUT THE LARGELY EMPTY SANDVELD COUNTRY IS NOT WITHOUT BIRDING INTEREST. THE OPEN SCRUB SAVANNAH AND GRASSLANDS ARE HOME TO PALE CHANTING GOSHAWK, SECRETARY BIRDS, RED NECKED FALCON, GREATER KESTREL AND KGORI BUSTARD. SET OFF EARLY TO ALLOW TIME FOR SOME BIRDING STOPS ALONG THE WAY.

ACCOMMODATION : THAKADU BUSH LODGE  
DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE) : 522 KM / 6 HOURS 45 MIN

DAY  
5

HEAD OFF EARLY WITH A GUIDE AND SPEND THE DAY IN THE CENTRAL KALAHARI GAME RESERVE TO SEE THE BIRDS AND ANIMALS OF THE DESERT. RETURN TO THAKADU LATE IN THE AFTERNOON AND CATCH THE WHITE-NECKED VULTURES FEEDING AT THE ONSITE VULTURE RESTAURANT. WATCH THEM AT EYE LEVEL FROM THE UNDERGROUND VIEWING BUNKER

ACCOMMODATION : THAKADU BUSH LODGE

DAY  
6

THE KALAHARI DESERT IS, OF COURSE, HOME TO THE KALAHARI BUSHMEN (SAN) PEOPLE, AND IF YOU WISH YOU CAN HAVE A UNIQUE BIRDING EXPERIENCE BY GOING OUT WITH A SAN FORAGING PARTY. BIRDS ALSO FEATURE PROMINENTLY IN SAN TRADITIONAL ARTWORK, AND IT IS WORTHWHILE VISITING THE KURU ARTS CENTRE. THEN HEAD NORTH FOR LAKE NGAMI. STAY OVERNIGHT IN MAUN ON THE BANKS OF THE THAMALAKANE RIVER.

ACCOMMODATION : PEO'S SELF- CATERING APARTMENTS  
DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE) : 285 KM / 3 HOURS

DAY  
7/8

THE OKAVANGO DELTA IS THE PREMIER TOURIST DESTINATION IN BOTSWANA, AND THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO EXPERIENCE THE BIRDLIFE HERE AT A RANGE OF DIFFERENT PRICES. THE QUOTED PRICE INCLUDES A HALF DAY BOAT TRIP INTO THE OKAVANGO DELTA WITH A PROFESSIONAL GUIDE, AND WE WILL PROVIDE NOTES WHICH ALLOW YOU TO DRIVE INTO THE DELTA FOR YOURSELF FROM SHOROBE. BUT THERE ARE MANY OTHER OPTIONS. WE WILL WORK WITH YOU TO ENSURE YOU GET THE BEST EXPERIENCE OF THE DELTA IN YOUR PRICE RANGE.

ACCOMMODATION : PEO'S SELF- CATERING APARTMENTS



SELF DRIVE  
TOURS  
BOTSWANA

DAY  
9/10

HEAD TO THE OKAVANGO PANHANDLE. GLIDE THE WATERS OF THE PANHANDLE IN A MOKORO DUGOUT CANOE. IDEAL FOR BIRD WATCHING. LOOK FOR FISH EAGLES, PEL'S FISHING OWL, AND THE LITTLE BROWN JOBS AMONGST THE RIVERSIDE VEGETATION. VISITING THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE ROCK ART AT TSODILO HILLS IS ALSO WELL WORTHWHILE, AND THERE IS A 16 KM HIKING TRAIL AROUND THE HILLS WHICH PROVIDES A GOOD LOOK AT ALL THE BIRDS OF THE NW KALAHARI DESERT. YOUR ACCOMMODATION IS RIGHT BESIDE A DEEP CHANNEL OF THE OKAVANGO RIVER, AND THERE ARE GOOD BIRDWATCHING OPPORTUNITIES RIGHT AT YOUR DOORSTEP.

ACCOMMODATION : ASKIESBOS FARM COTTAGE  
DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE) : 376 KM / 5 HOURS

DAY  
11

TRAVEL ACROSS THE CAPRIVI STRIP TO KASANE. THE BIRDING GLORIES OF THE CHOBE NATIONAL PARK AWAIT YOU. MOST OF THE DISTANCE IS THROUGH NATIONAL PARK WITH AN 80 KM/HR SPEED LIMIT IMPOSED TO PROTECT THE WILDLIFE, SO THIS IS ANOTHER LONG DAY OF DRIVING, AND YOU NEED TO LEAVE SEPUPA EARLY AS THERE ARE PLENTY OF INVITING STOPS ALONG THE WAY.

ACCOMMODATION : KASANE SELF CATERING  
DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE) : 481 KM / 6 HOURS

DAY  
12

START THE DAY WITH AN EARLY MORNING GAME DRIVE ALONG THE CHOBE NATIONAL PARK RIVERFRONT. SPEND THE REST OF THE MORNING EARLY AFTERNOON EXPLORING KASANE AND KAZUGULA, AND VISIT THE RESCUED BIRDS AT THE CARACAL WILDLIFE CENTRE. END YOUR DAY WITH BIRD WATCHING CRUISE ON THE CHOBE RIVER AS THE SUN SETS.

ACCOMMODATION : KASANE SELF CATERING



DAY  
13

TAKE A DAY TRIP TO THE VICTORIA FALLS AND RETURN TO KASANE

ACCOMMODATION : KASANE SELF CATERING



SELF DRIVE  
TOURS  
BOTSWANA

DAY

14

DRIVE SOUTH TO NATA PASSING THROUGH THE BROADACRE FARMING ON THE BLACK COTTON SOILS AT PANDAMATENGA. THE SORGHUM CROPS ATTRACT ENORMOUS MIXED FLOCKS OF FINCHES. STOP FOR LUNCH WITH THE ELEPHANTS AT ELEPHANT SANDS BEFORE CARRYING ON TO NATA AND SUNSET OVER THE MAKGADIKGADI PANS.

ACCOMMODATION : ESELBE CAMP

DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE) : 307 KM / 4 HOURS

DAY

15

SPEND THE DAY AT THE 4000 HA NATA BIRD SANCTUARY ON THE SHORE OF THE MAKGADIKGADI PANS. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT BREEDING SITE FOR FLAMINGOS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. AND IS ALSO HOME TO A RANGE OF OTHER BIRDS INCLUDING THE ENDANGERED GREY CROWNED CRANE. YOUR ACCOMMODATION ALSO OFFERS KAYAKS FOR EXPLORING THE NATA RIVER. AND HAS A RESIDENT FAMILY OF LESSER BUSHBABIES THAT WILL ENTERTAIN YOU WHILST YOU DINE.

ACCOMMODATION : ESELBE CAMP

DAY

16

HEAD SOUTH TO THE TSWAPONG HILLS. A MASSIVE BLOCK OF ANCIENT SANDSTONE DISSECTED BY DEEP GORGES. VISITING PLACES OF BIRDING INTEREST ALONG THE WAY.

ACCOMMODATION : GOO-MOREMI RESORT

DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE) : 370 KM / 4 HOURS

DAY

17

MOREMI GORGE IS HOME TO BREEDING POPULATIONS OF BOTH CAPE AND WHITE-BACKED VULTURES. ALONG WITH MANY OTHER BIRDS AND A GREAT DEAL OF WILDLIFE. A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN HOPE TO FIND ELEPHANT SHREWS, HYRAX, SLENDER MONGOOSE, AND A HOST OF OTHER ANIMALS. SET OUT EARLY IN THE MORNING ON A 5 HOUR HIKE UP THE PICTURESQUE GORGE TAKING YOU UP 3 WATERFALLS. SPEND THE AFTERNOON RECOVERING AT THE POOLSIDE BAR WATCHING THE VULTURES SOAR OVERHEAD. RELAX ON YOUR BALCONY OVERLOOKING THE GORGE IN THE LATE AFTERNOON AND LISTEN TO THE SOUNDS OF THE HILLS AS NIGHT FALLS.

ACCOMMODATION : GOO-MOREMI RESORT



SELF DRIVE  
TOURS  
BOTSWANA

DAY  
18

DRIVE AROUND TO THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE TSWAPONG HILLS WHERE YOU CAN STAY IN A PICTURESQUE HILL VILLAGE. ALONG THE WAY, TAKE IN THE TSWAPONG SELF-GUIDING TRAIL, AND MAKE TIME TO VISIT SEGAIGAI FARM. THE FARM IS DEVOTED TO NOCTURNAL WILDLIFE, AND IS SOMEWHERE YOU MAY BE ABLE TO ENCOUNTER A CRESTED PORCUPINE, ROCK MONITOR LIZARDS, AFRICAN ROCK PYTHON, AND MANY OTHER ANIMALS.

ACCOMMODATION: MALAKA GUESTHOUSE  
DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE): 120 KM / 2 HOURS

DAY  
19

HEAD A SHORT DISTANCE DOWN THE ROAD TO LECHENG PAN, FED BY A PERENNIAL SPRING AND A FAVOURITE WITH WATERFOWL. RETURN TO MALAKA FOR BREAKFAST. EXPLORE THE SURROUNDING GORGES, WHICH ARE THE BEST PLACE IN BOTSWANA TO FIND JAMESON'S RED ROCK HARE, AND THE GIANT VERRAUX'S EAGLE-OWL. AND BE SURE TO FIND TIME TO TAKE A TOUR OF THE VILLAGE, AND ADMIRE THE BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED TRADITIONAL HUTS.

ACCOMMODATION : MALAKA GUESTHOUSE  
DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE) : 16 KM / 30 MINUTES

DAY  
20

TRAVEL SOUTH TO GABORONE STOPPING AT VARIOUS POINTS OF INTEREST ON THE WAY SUCH AS LOSE QUARRY, THE TROPIC OF CAPRICORN, THE DIBETE GRASS CUTTERS COLLECTIVE AND MATSIENG FOOTPRINTS.

ACCOMMODATION: AIRPORT TOWN LODGE : GABORONE  
DRIVING DISTANCE AND TIME(APPROXIMATE) : 280 KM / 3 HOURS

DAY  
21

FLY OUT



SELF DRIVE  
TOURS  
BOTSWANA