

Delta Essentials

The Okavango Delta is a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the 7 Natural Wonders of Africa. Covering an area of up to 15,000 sq Kms at the height of the seasonal flood waters from Angola which flow into the labyrinth of waterways during the dry season. This annual flooding revitalizes the area attracting all manner of wildlife in significant numbers

Delta Essentials gives you the opportunity to explore both sides of the delta at the edge of Moremi Game Reserve in the southwest and the panhandle to the northwest in just seven days in affordable, comfortable lodges with amazing vistas of the delta. You begin your adventure in Maun and return there for your outgoing flight

Activities include gliding through the narrow waterways in a mokoro (dugout canoe), spending a day out fishing or taking a night game drive. If you are keen on photography you can get tips from experts at your lodge if you wish. A scenic flight over the delta is optional.

The price includes a 4x4 rental vehicle (a Toyota Hilux GD-6) which will get you to all destinations, but it is possible to use an ordinary car instead and avail yourself of the transport options offered by the accommodation providers.





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Day 1:Maun

Arrive in Maun and pick up your 4x4 rental vehicle. Stay at Island Safari Lodge. This is close enough to town to enable you to enjoy the local attractions including, if you wish, an optional scenic flight over the Okavango Delta. Or you can spend the rest of your day exploring the Lodge's private reserve. Island Safari Lodge is set in riverine forest on a 300 acre island in the Thamalakane River. The island has walking and cycling trails which provide great views over the river and surrounding floodplain. There is a surprising diversity of bird and animal life.

Day 2: Maun - Shorobe 28 miles, 1hr

Drive out to Semowi Nature Farm Lodge on the edge of the Gomoti River. Along the way there will be time to visit the craft markets at Shorobe, and to explore a little of the eastern margin of the Okavango Delta. This area floods seasonally, and the road threads its way between lagoons and channels, and you will encounter several log bridges.

Once at Semowi you can relax and watch the wildlife come and go and be serenaded by hippos close by as you head for bed. Accommodation is in luxurious tents overlooking the river.

Day 3: Semowi Nature Farm Lodge

Relax and enjoy your surroundings. The patio of the lodge overlooks the river. It is tempting to simply sit and watch the hippos, crocodiles and elephants frolicking in the water just steps away. The lodge also offers

- guided wildlife excursions by both boat and vehicle;
- opportunities to visit a nearby elephant orphanage; and
- classes in wildlife photography.
 Your hostess Severine formerly ran a commercial photography studio in Florida for 15 years.

Semowi Farm also makes a good base from which to visit the tiny local villages and the farmers growing crops of millet on the edge of the Delta

The lodge restaurant prioritises locally sourced organic produce.

The price for the two nights at Semowi is on a 'full board' basis so all meals are included.

Day 4 : Shorobe – Guma Lagoon 212 miles, 5 1/4 hrs

Drive back to Maun and then west to the Okavango Panhandle. Guma Lagoon itself is at the NW tip of the Okavango Delta. Think of tranquil, deep lagoons with rafts of waterlilies.

From US\$ 5510 for a couple

7 NIGHTS 4x4 LODGES

WHATS INCLUDED

- A personal meet and greet service on arrival at Maun International Airport.
- Hire of a Toyota Hilux GD6 4x4x or equivalent for 8 days.
- 7 nights accommodation staying at lodges with onsite restaurants
- 2 nights full board at Semowi Nature Farm (all meals)
- 3 nights full board at Guma Lagoon including
 all meals and daily activities
- · Road map of Botswana
- A bespoke Self Drive Tours Botswana guidebook tailored to your route and interests

WHATS EXCLUDED

- Scenic flight over the delta
- Personal vacation insurance. This is essential and cover should be in place from when you book your vacation
- Surcharges for pickup or return of the rental vehicle on a public holiday or a weekend
- Tips, gratuities and items of a personal nature
- Flights to and from Maun







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Fish eagles perched high on dead branches above the water. Papyrus swamps crisscrossed with hippo paths; and swamp specialist wildlife like the sitatunga antelope and otters.

Getting to the lagoon requires a 4x4 vehicle and experience in driving in patches of deep sand. The lodge will provide either a transfer or an escort vehicle for an additional charge if you are anxious about the conditions.

Days 5 and 6: Guma Lagoon

Spend the next two days drinking in the tranquility of your surroundings.. This is a place for waterborne activities, and the guides will use boats to take you fishing, birding, wildlife viewing or simply exploring the local geography. Accommodation is a private canvas chalet with its own deck on the edge of the lagoon.

Your stay is on a fully inclusive basis which includes daily activities and all meals. A scenic flight over the Panhandle by helicopter can be arranged at an additional charge.

Day 7: Guma Lagoon – Maun 186 miles, 4 ¾ hrs

Return to Maun and the Island Safari Lodge for your last night.

Day 8: fly out

Return you car at Maun airport. Most international flights depart Maun in the afternoon, so there will probably be time for an early morning scenic flight over the Delta before you leave.



