

5 DAYS/4 NIGHTS
ZAR 5345 FOR 2 ADULTS, 2
CHILDREN PLUS A DOG

CAMPING WITH YOUR CANINE

OVERVIEW

This road trip is designed to appeal to an active family with children and a dog. It is a 1120 km loop from Groblersbrug border post, stopping each night at a campsite where dogs and children are both made welcome. Fido will have to stay on a lead in the campsites, but some have a fenced exercise yard and all have walking tracks immediately at hand where dog and kids can run free.

You'll be making overnight stops in Palapye, Makgaba and Nata, but the highlights





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THE PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- O1 Bookings at dog friendly campsites in Palapye, Makgaba and Nata at SADC rates.
- **02** A road map of Botswana
- O3 A printed guidebook to 16 places along the way (including those listed above); places guaranteed to interest both your children and your dog alike. Most are accessible with any car. The guide notes provide directions in the form of GPS references and assume you have a GPS capable device.
- O4 A printed running sheet with practical advice on veterinary cordons, filling stations etc that you will encounter along the way.

THE PACKAGE EXCLUDES:

- O1 Cross border paperwork for your car and your dog
- O2 Cross border fees for your car



HIGHLIGHTS

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The Porcupine Loop Trail

This is an 8 km self guided nature walk through the forest of the Tswapong Hills. Created for school groups, and well marked so children can run on ahead. Dogs are welcome too.



2

The Hill Fort on Swaneng Hill

This is a climb up a steep volcanic hill. The fort on top is a stone walled defensive structure. It was built by the Tsweneng people during the Mfecane Wars in the early 19th Century. It was never needed, and when peace returned the builders returned to their homes near the Limpopo River. The fort remains just as it was left. It provides a 360 degree view over eastern Serowe.



3

Khubuladintša Hill

Khubuladintša lliterally means 'Hill of the dogs'. It is a forested, flat topped hill with an interesting archaeological history, providing a great view over the Mmashoro area. A good place for a brief history lesson. The rocky outcrops are home to many rock dassies.

4

The Sua Pan

The Sua Pan covers about 24,000 square km, making it one of the largest playa lakes in the world. The southern shoreline of this vast and deserted playa lake can be accessed (in places) from the A30 highway. There is space enough for thousands of children and dogs, but you will probably have the beach to yourselves. You can't count on finding water, but when there is water here it is fun to swim. A bit like the Dead Sea – the very high salinity makes it hard to sink.

Petrified wood

Petrified wood dating back to the Triassic Age is exposed along the escarpment at the southern margin of the Sua Pan. There are freshwater springs here too, and they attract quite a lot of wildlife. The shoreline is comprised of wave cut embayments, islets and headlands dating from a time when the Pan was once an enormous lake. An interesting landscape to explore on foot.

6

The Nata River

The Nata River upstream of Nata Village usually has water, and often hippos in the deeper pools, but no crocodiles Your campsite has kayaks available for use by guests; and there is a walking track along the riverbank.



7

Sam Edwards Park

Sam Edwards Park in Francistown has arguably the best children's playground in Botswana. Sadly dogs aren't allowed here. But if Fido is willing to stay in the car for 30 minutes the children would enjoy a visit.

The Motloutse Riverbed

This is the site where diamonds were first discovered in Botswana. It took another five decades to trace the alluvial diamonds back to their source. Fossicking in the riverbed for gemstones always appeals to children. The alluvial diamonds are rare, tiny and worthless, but other semiprecious stones are much more common.

9

The Majojo Ruins

These are a Zimbabwe tradition stone walled settlement, believed to be the home of a chief who ruled here in the 15th Century. Easily reached by a small walking track.

Toutswemogala Hill

Toutswemogala Hill has it all. Interesting rocks with Triassic Age leaf fossils; an interesting human history; superb views over the surrounding countryside and a scenic arch. Somewhere you could spend all day!