



*Experience the wilderness of
Botswana on a mobile camping Safari*

TRULY WILD AFRICA



FACT FILE

Audley works with four mobile operators who run a variety of mobile safaris across Botswana and Namibia. An 8-night trip across Botswana costs from £1,800 per person sharing. This includes international flights from the UK, internal flights in Africa, all transfers to and from the safari, all food and all game viewing activities. Single supplements are minimal and often waived. The trip could easily be extended with time relaxing on a remote Mozambique beach. For further details please call Marilyn, Botswana Specialist, on 01869 276 271.



If waking to the sound of a hyena eating a saucepan appeals to you then you are probably the perfect candidate for a mobile camping safari. Not for the faint-hearted, mobile camping safaris are a 'back-to-basics' way of really exploring Africa. After the recent trend of safari camps getting ever more luxurious, many people are now looking to escape from the cut glass, 16 fluffy towels in the bathroom and butler service and immerse themselves in the true spirit of safari. It is away from the plush tents and back to camping on the ground, with the dust in your hair and the call of the wild around you!

Recently a number of mobile safaris have sprung up across Botswana. These safaris have set departure dates, run with a maximum of eight people, and explore areas far from the beaten track. Best of all, the mobile safaris cost roughly half that of a fly-in safari to Botswana. The safaris go to private concession areas of the Okavango Delta, Moremi Wildlife Reserve and Linyanti Swamps. Some follow the zebra migration in the Kalahari whilst on others you walk and *mokoro* (traditional canoe) for two days across tracts of the Okavango where there are no roads.

Each night you stay in a mobile tented camp. These camps are moved daily and they are always far from civilisation. One of our favourite mobile campsites is under a huge jackalberry tree beside

the Linyanti Lagoon. At night the sound of the frogs is deafening and you are sure to have a hippo near your tent. Another fabulous site is at the Makgadikgadi Pans. Here you can see the earth's shadow rise as the sun sets – one of the few places in the world we know where you can do so. During the rains the region is filled with zebras (and also frogs, but that's perhaps not to everybody's taste!).

Whilst wild, the mobile camps are by no means uncomfortable. A full camp crew builds the camp which consists of dome tents with camp beds and duvets, hot bucket showers and bush loos – always with a seat and often with a view. The crew will prepare cooked breakfasts, picnic lunches and three course dinners. Dinner will be eaten in the 'dining room' which could be under the large fig tree or on an island in the middle of the Delta. Jackets and ties for gentlemen and dresses for ladies are not essential and preferred attire is jeans, jumpers and a generous splash of mosquito repellent. After dinner it's coffee from tin mugs around the fire and stories about wildlife encounters – of which about 5% tend to be true. And then it is time for bed. A word of warning though - don't leave your sponge bag outside the tent as the hyenas are rather partial to soap and toothpaste, that's if they've still got space after the saucepans.

Heather Tyrrell
African Safari Programme Manager



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- 1 Explore by mokoro
- 2 Dawn in the Okavango Delta
- 3 Campfires are lit each night
- 4 A mobile tented camp



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