

Sky Theme Safaris – Nature at its Most Beautiful



Tour Notes



ELEPHANT TRAIL (STSET) Tour Duration: 14 Nights / 15 Days

Tour Style: Classic **Tour Type:** Small Groups **Tour Code:** STSET

Tour Pace: Moderate **Tour Comfort:** Standard

Tour Highlights – Okavango Adventure

- Raw feel for the African wilderness.
- Moremi Game Reserve – untouched wildlife for a breathtaking experience.
- Chobe National Park – wilderness at its finest. Its reputation speaks for itself.
- Victoria Falls – Mosi-oa-Tunya ‘The Smoke that Thunders’. Hear the roar and feel the spray.



Checklist:

- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Sun glasses
- Closed shoes
- Comfortable clothing
- Mosquito/insect repellent
- Binoculars
- Head/hand torch

Tour Itinerary:

Accommodation:

- 1 night at a lodge in Maun
- 2 nights camping in the Delta
- 4 nights camping in Moremi Game Reserve
- 2 nights camping in Savute
- 2 nights camping in Chobe National Park
- 1 night at a lodge in Kasane
- 2 nights at a lodge in Livingstone
- Depart from Livingstone airport

Included Meals: 10 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 10 dinners

Start Point: Join tour: Maun

End Point: Tour ends: Livingstone

Transport: 4WD

Countries: Botswana and Zambia



Day 1 Tour Starts in Maun

Land in Maun and check-in to your first accommodation. Maun is a small and rural town which is the doorway to the Okavango Delta. This is where your adventure starts and the entrance to what will be an unforgettable experience of nature.

Overnight: Standard lodge

Included: All meals excluded

Standard-Medium Lodge (Sedia Hotel): <http://www.sedia-hotel.com>

Upscale Lodge (Maun Lodge): <http://www.maunlodge.com>

Day 2 Drive into the Delta

Wake up and relax while you prepare yourself for the start of your journey by enjoying breakfast at the lodge. The team will soon take you to the Okavango Delta where your journey starts. The boat ride to the campsite will no doubt leave an imprint on your memory as the vast quantity of river water supported by a large ecosystem permits an abundance of wildlife. From flora and fauna to birds and large mammals. Arrive at your campsite and prepare yourself for the activities the Delta has to provide, such as, walking safaris and mokoro exploration (Botswanan version of canoeing in the Okavango Delta). Enjoy your first night in the wilderness looking to the sky and admiring the stars.

Overnight: Standard camping

Included: All meals included



Day 3 in the Heart of the Delta

Your first morning in Moremi will be relaxed and comfortable. It will be a day full of excitement and new experiences as you witness nature first hand and the beauty of the wildlife. Moremi is in the heart of the Okavango Delta and therefore wildlife is rich and diverse due to the sheer quantity of water. Today you will be able to finish the rest of the activities you were not able to do the previous day.

Overnight: Standard camping

Included: All meals included

Day 4 Drive to Moremi Game Reserve (Khwai Area)

Wake up and start getting ready at your own pace to head into the heart of Moremi Game Reserve. The drive towards the centre of Moremi will make you realise how different the topography is between Moremi and your previous camp sites. Settle down at your new camp site in Khwai and prepare yourself for your up-coming afternoon game drive. Khwai is an area within the national park owned by the village of Khwai and located in the heart of the delta. The nights in Moremi are truly a thing of beauty.

Overnight: Standard camping

Included: Lunch, Dinner



Day 5 in the Heart of Moremi Game Reserve

The Okavango Delta is also referred to as ‘Africa’s Last Eden’. It is one of Africa’s most beautiful and well preserved ecosystems. The Okavango Delta is affected by seasonal flooding with flood water from Angola reaching the Delta between March and June, peaking in July. This peak coincides with Botswana’s dry season resulting in great migrations of plain game from the dry hinterland. Your first night camping in the Moremi Game Reserve will be an unforgettable start to your journey, with the game drives and night camping to add to the excitement.

Overnight: Standard camping

Included: All meals

Day 6 in Moremi Game Reserve (Xakanaxa Area)

Wake up in a wonderland and let your breath be taken away by the striking sunrise and the smell of the African bush. The Okavango Delta supports large concentrations of animals on both a permanent and seasonal basis. Through careful wildlife management it has become perhaps one of the best places to see animals and birds in Africa. Today you will be heading to a nearby campsite in the Xakanaxa area, the drive towards your new campsite in the morning will act as a game drive since both areas are within the national park. Scenic game drives through the game reserve will leave you with memories to take home and stories to tell.

Overnight: Standard camping

Included: All meals



Day 7 in Moremi Game Reserve

There is never a dull moment in Moremi especially when you first wake up with a coffee/tea in one hand and your camera in the other. Enjoy at your own pace while the team shows you what Moremi has to offer you one more time. Come back to camp after your afternoon game drive and start getting excited for your next stop that you can discuss over the camp fire.

Overnight: Standard camping

Included: All meals

Day 8 Drive to Savute

Savute is an area in the Chobe National Park and is probably most well-known for its large herds of African Elephants. But this is just the beginning of the Park. Discover an entirely different environment within the Okavango Delta as we take a beautiful drive towards your new camp site that will allow your thoughts to wonder. A similar game drive and night camping experience as Moremi but with completely different surroundings will keep you intrigued.

Overnight: Standard camping

Included: All meals

Day 9 in Savute

Enjoy your early morning wake-up in Savute with a nice cup of coffee or tea and the aura of the wildlife around you. Start your day with an early morning game drive through Savute and you will realize the difference in topography between Savute and your previous game drives within Moremi. The vast plains of Savute and its diversity of environments will truly inspire you. After a breathtaking morning game drive, you will come back to camp and enjoy a lovely lunch that has already been prepared for you. After your afternoon nap amongst nature, get ready for your afternoon game drive and explore the other sections that Savute has to offer you. Relax back at camp and anticipate your night around the camp fire.

Overnight: Standard camping

Included: All meals



Day 10 Drive to Chobe National Park

Wake up for the last time in Savute and prepare yourself for your next adventure by heading to the famous Chobe National Park. Your morning game drive will be the start of your trip to Chobe and the change of scenery will, again, dazzle you with its natural beauty. Chobe National Park is famous for its large herds of elephants, buffaloes and numerous predators that come with them. Your first night at Chobe will not disappoint and the surroundings are just amazing.

Overnight: Standard camping

Included: All meals

Day 11 in Chobe National Park

Your first morning in Chobe will be an unforgettable one, with the striking beauty of your new surroundings. The first morning game drive will set the tone for the rest of your stay in Chobe. If it's big game you seek, then Chobe National Park is the right place to go. The vast herds of elephants will forever be ingrained in your memory. Head back to camp after your second game drive of the day and exchange stories over the camp fire.

Overnight: Standard camping

Included: All meals



Day 12 Drive to Kasane

Today you are off to Kasane - a short drive from Chobe National Park. The team will take you to your Lodge accommodation where you can relax in your room and the comforts the lodge has to offer. Recharge the batteries and start packing for your next adventure since tomorrow you will be crossing the border into Zambia.

Overnight: Standard lodge

Included: Breakfast

Standard-Medium Lodge (Thebe River Lodge):

https://www.tripadvisor.com.au/Hotel_Review-g297318-d1036773-Reviews-Thebe_River_Lodge-Kasane_North_West_District.html

Upscale Lodge (Chobe Safari Lodge): <http://www.chobesafarilodge.net>

Day 13 Drive to Livingstone

Wake up in Botswana with a coffee in one hand and your passport in the other, since today you are heading to Livingstone, Zambia. We would have finished the game drives (unless you want to book supplementary game drives in Livingstone). Livingstone is the perfect place for adrenaline junkies or people fascinated in its rich history. As you get yourself comfortable at your new lodge, prepare yourself for the activities you have booked with your tour guide. There are many activities Livingstone can offer, activities such as white water rafting, bungee jumping, village tours, scenic helicopter flights, lion and cheetah walks - and much more. And don't forget the famous Victoria Falls also known as Mosi-oa-Tunya 'The Smoke that Thunders'.

Overnight: Standard lodge

Included: All meals excluded

Standard-Medium Lodge (Bushfront Lodge):

<https://www.safarinow.com/go/thebushfrontlodgelivingstone/>

Upscale Lodge (Water Front Lodge): <https://thevictoriafallswaterfront.com/the-lodge/>



Day 14 in Livingstone

Wake up in the comfort of a lodge well relaxed from your action packed day in Zambia. Due to the amount of activities Livingstone has to provide, today is the perfect day to tick off anything else that is on your ‘to do’ list. Come back to your lodge for the last time and start getting ready for your trip home and enjoy the last night of your time with Sky Theme Safaris.

Overnight: Standard lodge

Included: All meals excluded

Day 15 Depart from Livingstone airport

Your adventure ends in Livingstone. Depending on the schedule of your flights you may wish to spend some additional time relaxing and absorbing the beauty of the surroundings.

The Ability to Swim

The ability to swim is necessary in order for you to be safe during the water based activities on this trip. This will enable you to avoid any hazardous situations and enjoy your time during the activity.



Accommodation and Meals

The majority of the lodges that we stay in on this trip have a small swimming pool. We also spend time camping in the wilderness sites in Moremi Game Reserve and Chobe National Park. The tents that you will be using include; camp beds, bedding and pillows which are all provided. The camp assistants are here to make your stay as comfortable and enjoyable as possible. You will have all of the modern comforts yet still be in close proximity to the African bush. This will make your experience more pleasant and more memorable.

Food and Drinks

Included meals: 8 breakfasts, 8 lunches and 8 dinners are included in the price of the tour. Please be prepared to pay for non-included meals and please take note that prices for drinks and meals may vary between locations.

Budgeting for Your Tour

If you are interested in any excursions and/or activities which aren't part of your STS tour you will have to make arrangements locally to book them. We will be more than happy to help you decide which activities better suit your needs and budget. *Please note:* these activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Sky Theme Safaris tour contract.

Tipping – Tour Leader/Tour Guide

At your discretion you may wish to tip your tour leader/guide in appreciation of the efficiency and service you have received during your stay.



Tipping – Local Crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognised practise in this region of the world if you are satisfied with the service and preparation you have received. In order to make things easier for you the tour leader may organise a group kitty. Again, this is voluntary.

Foreign Exchange

ATM Availability: Cash can be drawn out on credit cards from ATM's in Maun

Credit Card Acceptance: Limited

Travellers Cheques: Not recommended

Local Currency: Botswana Pula

Recommended Currency for Exchange: US Dollars / US Dollars for tips

Important Information

Travel Insurance

It is a condition of joining **any** of our tours that you must have valid travel insurance. It must indicate that you have cover for (at least) medical expenses and emergency repatriation in the event of illness or injury. We also strongly recommend your policy includes curtailment, personal effects and cancellation protection as all deposits paid are non-refundable. You will also need to ensure your travel policy covers you for all activities you intend to do whilst on your tour and activities outside of the contract of STS. Your insurer may charge an additional premium for certain activities.

Visa Information



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Botswana and Namibia: visas are not required by UK, Australian, New Zealand, US and Canadian passport holders. All other nationalities please consult your nearest Embassy for up to date advice on necessary visa requirements.

Zambia: Visas are required by UK, Canadian, US, Australian and New Zealand passport holders. Please note it is possible for UK passport holders to obtain their visa on arrival at all ports of entry.

All other nationalities, please consult your nearest Embassy for up to date advice on necessary visa requirements.

All passports must have a minimum of 6 months' validity from date of return to your home country. Please note: Be aware that visa information is subject to change and that you must not rely on STS to be fully aware of all visa requirements for all countries. Please ensure you inform yourself on this matter.

Lone Parents

In Botswana single parents or other adults travelling alone with children should be aware that some countries require documentation confirming that the individual has authority to travel with the minor. You should contact the Botswana Embassy for further information and details.

Vaccinations and Protection

Botswana: Nothing compulsory, but we do recommend protection against malaria, hepatitis A, tetanus, typhoid and polio. Consult your travel clinic for the latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. Travellers may wish to immune themselves against meningitis. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC and from your local healthcare provider in your country. Visa vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed before departure.



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Zambia: We strongly recommend protection against malaria, hepatitis A, tetanus, diphtheria, typhoid and polio. Malaria is present in the region so consult your travel clinic for the latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. Yellow fever is compulsory for all travel into Zambia if transiting via South Africa or any other Yellow Fever Zone. Please ensure you inform yourself of all requirements.

Preparing for your Tour

Climate

Botswana: Botswana has many regional characteristics that differ - from fertile areas in the East to vast desert in the centre and South and a vast delta in the North-West. This creates extremes of temperatures and highly variable rainfall.

Zambia: The main rainy season is from January to March. The rain is widespread and generally falls in the form of thunderstorms; grass tends to be long and there is more water about which makes game viewing more dispersed.

Clothing

Clothing should be lightweight. However, a wind/waterproof jacket, a warm fleece or sweater and thermal underwear for night time is strongly advised. Night temperatures and early morning game drives can be very cold, especially in the winter (April to August). Brightly coloured and white clothing is not suitable for game viewing.

Equipment

Bring a head/hand torch, a water bottle, a sunhat, sunglasses, insect repellent and sunscreen. Binoculars are essential for game viewing and a 300mm lens is recommended for photography.



Footwear

Lightweight trail and/or steel cap boots are vital and sandals for relaxing in.

General Information

Food

The prices for meals and drinks can vary greatly depending upon location. In general, you would expect that drinks purchased in a supermarket or a local bar to be less expensive. Whilst drinks in an upmarket bar or restaurant may be more expensive. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Electricity Supply and Plugs

Botswana: 3 Pin Round

Zambia: 3 Pin Flat

Country Details

Botswana:

Population: 2 182 719

Size of Country: 581 730 sq. km

Major Languages: English, Setswana

Religion: Christians, Anglicans, Methodists

Time Difference to GMT: +2



Zambia:

Population: 15 066 266

Size of Country: 752 600 sq. km

Major Language: English, Bemba

Religion: Christian and Indigenous

Time Difference to GMT: +2

Why Chose Sky Theme Safaris

We are a dedicated team with all the energy and enthusiasm that goes with the territory. We will do our utmost to give you an experience that will have you wanting to come back to Botswana. We are a team with great passion for conservation and for adventurous experiences that do not involve unnecessary risks. Our aim is to grow and be around for the long term. We hope to bring our dream to fruition with you along for the ride.

100% No Surcharge Guarantee

The price you paid for your holiday is not subject to change. Once booked and confirmed we will guarantee the price you pay will not increase, whatever the circumstances. You will not be approached to pay fuel surcharges. The price guarantee applies to all new bookings and tours.



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