

---

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

---

## What languages are spoken in Botswana?

The official language of Botswana is English, and the national language is Setswana. Several other languages are spoken to a lesser degree in Botswana such as IsiNdebele, Kalanga, Kgalagadi and Afrikaans and other dialects. Conversing with the locals is easily and happily done in English.

## Do I need a visa for Botswana?

The answer depends on which country you are a citizen of. Visitors to Botswana from most Commonwealth countries (including the UK, Ireland and Canada) and most EU countries, as well as Norway, Switzerland, Israel, South Africa and the United States, need only a valid passport. On arrival, your passport will be stamped with a 30-day Botswana visa.

Extensions are available for up to three months. Applications for visas valid for longer than three months must be made directly to the Immigration & Passport Control Office in Gaborone before your departure to Botswana.

If you are a citizen of an African, Middle Eastern, or Asian country you will need a visa to enter Botswana, but there are several exceptions.

For those on a safari that combines Botswana with a trip to Zambia to view the Victoria Falls,

tourist visas are available at the Botswana-Zambia border. For itineraries that combine Botswana with Namibia, a visa for the latter is not required by citizens of the UK, Ireland, Canada, the US, Australia and New Zealand.

## What is Botswana most famous for?

Our economy is dominated by mining, cattle and tourism. Botswana is also considered Nature's Last Stronghold, home to unique ecosystems like the famous UNESCO World Heritage site, the Okavango Delta and the Tsodilo Hills.

## Where is the best place for a safari tour?

Botswana is home to a huge array of private concessions and national parks, each rich in wildlife and natural wonders. It's a huge country, so finding the best place for your safari requires thoughts on what you want to see and when you want to travel.

The Okavango Delta is undoubtedly the best known of Botswana's parks and attractions. A bizarre natural wonder set within the famous Kalahari Basin, here you can spot some of the most truly inspiring wildlife and incredible vistas. The Okavango encapsulates the heart of wild Africa and a journey here guarantees jaw-dropping natural beauty and excellent game spotting. Yet the Okavango is just one of many places that we think makes the perfect Botswana safari, and we think it works best when combined with a few nights

---

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

---

in some of the other, equally awe-inspiring areas of this stunning destination.

You can combine it with some of the best parks and reserves including, Chobe National Park, famous for its huge elephant herds, or Savuti, amazing for spotting big populations of lion. For something completely different, you can head to the Kalahari for some amazing desert adapted animals, such as the endearing meerkats, or the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, one of the few places hyena call home, where in the winter you can find huge herds of Zebra and Antelope. You can also head to Linyanti for walking safaris, or even Nxai Pan for some very eccentric lodgings.

## How do I get to tourist destinations?

Travel in Botswana can be done in many ways; including combining game drives and small charter flights. The travel here is all part of the experience.

Most of the travel in Botswana is done by private charter flights; in fact, this is the only way to reach a majority of the camps in areas such as Chobe, Okavango Delta, Central Kalahari and the Moremi Reserve. Many accommodations have private landing strips on location, or just a short game drive away. Scheduled light aircraft depart from Maun and Kasane, handling all inter-camp transfers as well.

These flights give you an incredible perspective on Botswana's beautifully diverse landscapes and being in such a small

plane can be quite a thrill. It also saves a lot of time compared to driving these distances, meaning more time on the ground to explore the many attractions of this fantastic destinations.

## Is Botswana good for family trips?

Botswana can be a fantastic safari destination, offering the landscapes and wildlife one hopes for during an African safari. A safari here can be educational, inspiring and just amazing fun for all the family; however, there are things to consider. Botswana is a truly wild destination, so many camps are unfenced. Children need to be of an age where they can be trusted not to run around outside alone, or at night.

## Do I need vaccinations or malaria tablets?

We always recommend you speak to your doctor or a health professional about vaccinations and malaria tablets well in advance of your safari. There are specialist travel clinics that are trained in the area, and they can keep you up to date with the current advice as it often changes. At present, certain areas of Botswana are affected by malaria.