



INSIDER JOURNEYS

BOTSWANA EXPLORER SAFARI

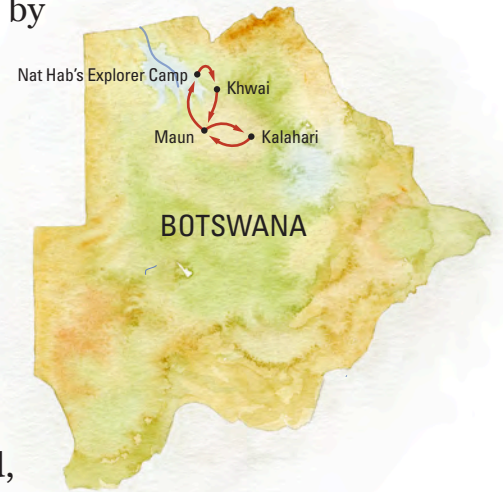


TRIP ITINERARY

A Safari with Dr. Robin Naidoo, WWF Senior Conservation Scientist and Lead Wildlife Scientist

September 15–23, 2027

In 2011, Botswana joined five southern African nations to form the Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA)—the world’s largest trans-boundary conservation zone, spanning an area the size of California. KAZA promotes wildlife conservation and sustainable development by enabling species like elephants to move freely across borders. WWF collaborates with governments, communities, and partners to protect vital corridors and foster coexistence between people and wildlife.



Join WWF Expert Dr. Robin Naidoo on a thrilling safari through the Botswana bush, where the true spirit of wilderness comes alive in a country renowned for its commitment to conservation and ecological leadership. This ancient land, inhabited by the San people for over 100,000 years, now serves as a sanctuary for Africa’s largest elephant population—more than 130,000 strong—and endangered predators like lions and wild dogs.



Across expansive savannas, mopane woodlands, and the iconic Okavango Delta, a rich tapestry of habitats supports an astonishing diversity of wildlife. From our thoughtfully designed canvas camps—comfortable yet unpretentious—you’ll explore this vibrant ecosystem through game drives, guided bush walks, and tranquil dugout canoe journeys.

As night descends, gather around the campfire to share stories and marvel at the day’s encounters. Overhead, a canopy of stars sparkles, while the sounds of the wild echo through the darkness—a nightly symphony of nature’s enduring presence.

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE 9 Days

Day	Date	Location	Accommodation
1	September 15	Maun, Botswana / Makgadikgadi Pans National Park	Meno a Kwena
2	September 16	Kalahari Desert Safari	Meno a Kwena
3	September 17	Maun / Northern Okavango Delta	Nat Hab's Explorer Camp
4 & 5	September 18 & 19	Northern Okavango Delta	Nat Hab's Explorer Camp
6	September 20	Northern Okavango / Khwai Private Reserve	Little Sable Camp
7 & 8	September 21 & 22	Khwai Private Reserve	Little Sable Camp
9	September 23	Khwai Private Reserve / Maun	

ITINERARY IN DETAIL

Day 1, September 15: Maun, Botswana / Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

On arrival in Maun, our Expedition Leader meets you at the airport before our overland transfer to the western edge of Makgadikgadi Pans National Park. Our classic tented safari camp overlooks the Boteti River in the Kalahari Desert—360,000 square miles of sandy, semi-arid savanna that sustains a proliferation of wildlife. Following afternoon tea, watch wildlife from a floating hide where we often view scores of elephants at close range. The river is a lifeline flowing through these parched environs, and it attracts Africa's second-largest zebra and wildebeest migration. It's common to see lounging crocodiles—our camp's namesake. And we frequently see other animals stopping for a drink in front of camp, too, including oryx, springbok, Kalahari lion, cheetah, hyena, jackal, and ostrich.

Overnight Meno a Kwena (D)



Day 2, September 16: Kalahari Desert Safari

Explore the western sector of the national park by 4x4, where a multitude of game ranges across a landscape of scrub, palms, riverine trees, and grassy plains. Within the Kalahari Desert, the immense reach of Makgadikgadi is traversed by zebra, giraffe, springbok, gemsbok, wildebeest and more. The animals make their way across the desolate expanse in search of water, arriving

at the park's remote western reaches to congregate by the river. We also explore on foot with local San people, who reveal as much about their Indigenous culture as the native plants and wildlife we observe. At day's end, return to camp for dinner under the stars, followed by time for sharing stories around the fire.

Overnight Meno a Kwena (B, L, D)

Day 3, September 17: Maun / Northern Okavango Delta

After a leisurely breakfast, we drive back to the airport in Maun, then fly by light aircraft to our mobile camp in the northern Okavango Delta. The delta has grown over millennia as millions of tons of sand were carried down the Okavango River from its source in Angola. The shimmering emerald landscape creates a verdant contrast with the surrounding desert as the river fans out over the Kalahari sands to create the world's largest inland delta—5,800 square miles of swampy marsh, clear channels, lagoons and islands. A planetary marvel, its meandering waterways are filled with hippo, crocodile, red lechwe, wattled cranes, and more. In 2014, the Okavango Delta became the 1,000th destination to be officially inscribed on the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites. From our secluded bush camp base in the heart of this vast wilderness, we're in prime position to encounter lion, leopard, cheetah, elephant, hippo, and much more.

Overnight Nat Hab's Explorer Camp (B, L, D)



Day 4 & 5, September 18 & 19: Northern Okavango Delta

Embrace the natural rhythms of the delta's varied habitats as we explore via 4x4 wildlife drives and, when water levels permit, excursions by boat and mokoro, the traditional poled canoe of the delta. Our guides have a deep, long-cultivated intimacy with this environment, and their ability to track and spot wildlife is second to none. Within this unspoiled watery expanse in the heart of Southern Africa's interior, surprise encounters with nature await at every turn. Wake to the call of an African fish eagle before setting off into a labyrinth of lush

palm- and papyrus-fringed waterways. After the sun dips and the Milky Way emerges in the night sky, fall asleep to the sounds of the bush, with nothing but a layer of canvas between you and the African wild.

Overnight Nat Hab's Explorer Camp (B, L, D)

Day 6, September 20: Northern Okavango / Khwai Private Reserve

After a final morning at our mobile camp, fly to the private Khwai Concession. This massive wildlife sanctuary bordering the famous Moremi Game Reserve is a community-owned concession encompassing riverine woodlands, floodplains, mopane forest, and open grasslands. The Khwai River is a lifeline for the region, and elephants abound. We're likely to see waterbuck, reedbuck and many antelope species, including the water-adapted red lechwe, along with lion, leopard and spotted hyena. Khwai's varied habitats also support the majestic sable antelope and packs of African wild dog. In addition, more than 450 bird species have been recorded in the area.

Overnight Little Sable Camp (B,L,D)



Day 7 & 8, September 21 & 22: Khwai Private Reserve



Private game reserves managed by local communities protect threatened species and keep wildlife corridors intact, opening our passage into an unbroken sanctuary of marshes, sand-covered plains, and acacia and mopane forest. Explore Khwai's vast territory on morning and afternoon wildlife drives, walking safaris and poled mokoro (when water levels permit). This serene time on the water gives local polers a chance to share their deep knowledge of this ecosystem and how it has sustained their people for generations. Wildlife abounds, including elephant, buffalo, herds of plains game and countless bird species. Khwai's

community-based concession has been a conservation triumph, bridging safari tourism with Khwai village life and enhancing economic stability for the local people.

Overnight Little Sable Camp (B, L, D)



Day 9, September 23: Khwai Private Reserve / Maun

Depending on the precise timing of our flight departure this morning, we will make a final quest for wildlife on the Khwai Reserve, or we'll look for animals around our tranquil camp. By late morning, we fly back to Maun by light aircraft to connect with onward flights.

(B)

Meet Our Expert



Dr. Robin Naidoo, WWF Senior Conservation Scientist and Lead Wildlife Scientist

As a lead scientist at WWF-US, Dr. Robin Naidoo investigates the ecological and economic issues that impact wildlife conservation. His work, from mapping ecosystem services to monitoring animal migrations, places nature at the center of sustainable development and helps support a future where species and people coexist.

Robin's current research is largely focused on understanding the interaction between biodiversity and people, particularly in field-based contexts in Africa. In Namibia, Robin conducts research on whether and how healthy wildlife populations support the livelihoods of local communities. This involves collaborations with the Namibian government and other partners on wildlife research and conservation, as well as on the economics of community-based conservation. In southern Africa's Kavango-Zambezi transfrontier conservation area, Robin has led a team of researchers that used satellite collars to document a migration of Burchell's Zebra across Namibia and Botswana, highlighting the importance of transboundary conservation in this region. He also works on the movement ecology and migratory behavior of other species in this region, including elephants and African buffalo.

Robin has also conducted field work on various aspects of biodiversity conservation in North America, Asia, and South America. Following a Master's degree focused on forest ecology, Robin pursued an interdisciplinary PhD in conservation biology and environmental economics, where his field work integrated both ecological and economic angles in Uganda. He then completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Paraguay, focusing on mapping the opportunity costs of conservation due to deforestation in the highly threatened Atlantic Forest ecoregion. His work is published widely in a variety of academic journals, including those devoted to conservation, ecology, economics and interdisciplinary issues.



What to Expect and Physical Requirements

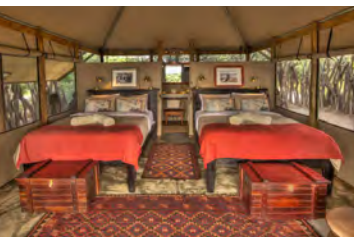
To participate in this trip, you must be able to walk unassisted at a steady pace for at least one mile over uneven terrain, climb steps to get into and out of our raised safari vehicles, and be able to tolerate daily outdoor excursions that may last 4-5 hours or even a full day at a time, sometimes in hot, windy, and/or dusty conditions. Wildlife drives pose a particular type of physical demand on the body, as they require long hours of sitting and take place over terrain that is often very rough and bumpy, including dirt roads with many ruts and potholes. Travelers with back or neck problems, or other health issues that could be exacerbated by such conditions, should take this into consideration. While any walking safaris are considered optional, travelers must be able to walk unassisted to and from the vehicle to our camp accommodations, sometimes walking over uneven ground or on boardwalks. Days spent on safari are often long, as mornings typically start before daybreak and evening meals are served after sundown. Safari accommodations and vehicles are not climate-controlled, and, depending on the season, temperatures can range from quite cold to extremely hot, so it is critical that travelers come prepared.

Accommodations



Meno a Kwena

Situated between the Okavango Delta and the Central Kalahari Game Reserve near Makgadikgadi Pans National Park, this solar-powered camp features nine traditional canvas tents overlooking the Boteti River. The camp's name translates to "teeth of the crocodile," referencing the common presence of these reptiles lazing on nearby riverbanks. Tent sides roll up to take in the broad vista, but your private space remains hidden, tucked among thorn trees that offer seclusion. Each tent has an en suite flush toilet plus indoor and outdoor safari showers. Furnishings are distinctly African, with dark wood, bold textiles and woven carpets. Harnessing the power of Botswana's typically sunny days, solar power fires the camp's energy-efficient lights as well as your camera battery charger. This is a low-impact camp that supports recycling and recognizes water as a limited and precious resource.



In addition to game drives over grasslands and salt pans, a stay at Meno a Kwena Camp also offers a chance to engage with local San Bushmen and learn about their ancient culture. Explore the surrounding habitat

on foot with a resident guide, then relax in the natural rock plunge pool with views of the river—quite possibly overlooking a herd of frolicking elephants. Share stories in tented outdoor spaces and meals under the boundless night sky.

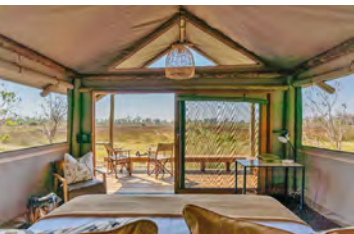
Nat Hab's Explorer Camp

Delve into an authentic safari experience in the heart of the Okavango Delta, teeming with wildlife. Enjoy the solitude of a small expedition camp within an enormous untouched wilderness—with just eight tents, this rustic yet supremely comfortable mobile camp is reserved exclusively for our group's visit. We are in a prime location to encounter the wildlife that surrounds us, including lion, leopard, elephant, hippo, and much more. When water levels permit, poled mokoro rides are offered, to experience the Delta's magic from a traditional local dugout canoe. Motorized boat rides are also offered. Our Meru-style tents exude classic safari atmosphere, with dark wood and iron campaign furniture, Oriental rugs and lantern light filling the cozy indoor spaces, while white tablecloths, flickering candles and vintage chairs add ambience to the outdoor dining experience. Each tent has an en suite bathroom with flush toilet and hot shower. After game drives, sink into plush pillows in the shared lounge tent as you relax with a drink. And when you tuck in at night, stay warm with heavy blankets and hot water bottles as you are lulled to sleep with the Delta's nocturnal chorus just outside your canvas walls.



Little Sable Camp

With wide-open views out your tent door that make you feel truly one with nature, this camp in the heart of the game-rich Khwai Private Reserve has been completely revamped to upgrade the interiors and service level while maintaining its intimate and relaxed simplicity. Eight traditional tents on raised wooden platforms have a king-size bed (which can be converted to two twins), writing desk, en suite bathroom with indoor and outdoor showers, and private viewing deck surveying the shimmering grasslands, including a popular elephant and zebra grazing area. Design and decor blend a touch of old-world English heritage with African-inspired artistry. The broader redesign includes the extension of the outside deck to create a larger lounge and dining space, sheltered under thatch. The firepit area has been enhanced to provide an even more inviting opportunity to sit around the crackling logs, gin and tonic in hand, surrounded by the sounds of the night and spray of stars overhead. The pool area has also been enlarged, improving this unexpected game-viewing platform.



The private Khwai concession, an expanse of nearly half a million acres,



teems with Botswana's most famous wildlife. Offering an experience of the Okavango Delta that's second to none, Little Sable is surrounded by vast floodplains, sprawling savannas, and patches of forest laced with a maze of channels and lily-filled waterways.

About WWF Insider Journeys

This trip is an invitation-only conservation travel program for our closest supporters, along with friends and family, to see firsthand the positive impact World Wildlife Fund is making. These custom-designed journeys are led by WWF experts and offer exclusive opportunities to discover the wildlife and ecosystems we protect; meet community members whose lives are being improved because of our work, and immerse yourself in the worlds of our field staff and partners on the ground. Come explore the best of the natural world and see how together we are making a difference for our planet.

About Our Travel Partner



This journey is being arranged by Natural Habitat Adventures (Nat Hab) of Boulder, Colorado. For more than a decade, WWF has partnered with Nat Hab to take travelers to view nature's greatest sights. WWF selected Natural Habitat as its partner because of its long-standing commitment to conservation and the exceptional quality of its adventures. Nat Hab will give 1% of gross sales plus \$185,000 annually through 2028 in support of WWF's mission.

Reservation Information & Trip Details

To register or if you have questions, please contact Aly Jacobsen at Natural Habitat Adventures (888) 993-8687 or alyj@nathab.com.

DATES: September 15–23, 2027

GROUP SIZE: Limited to approximately 11 guests

LAND COST: \$14,859 per person, double occupancy
Internal air: \$1,554 per person
Single Supplement: \$1,659
(Botswana price is based on current estimate and may change slightly.)

INCLUDED: Accommodations, services of Nat Hab’s professional Expedition Leader(s), local guides and camp, staff all meals from dinner on Day 1 through lunch on final day, some gratuities, airport transfers on Day 1 and final day, all activities and entrance fees, all taxes, permits and service fees, and all light aircraft flights within the itinerary (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

NOT INCLUDED: Travel to and from the start and end point of your trip, some alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees (if any), optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, laundry and internet, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes (if any), required medical evacuation insurance, and optional travel protection insurance.

PAYMENTS: A nonrefundable deposit of \$500 confirms your space. Payments are accepted by credit card or by check made out to Natural Habitat.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: Cancellations must be received in writing at Natural Habitat Adventures by US mail, email or fax. At the time Natural Habitat Adventures receives your written cancellation, the following per person penalties apply: On or before 120 days before the trip: Full refund minus \$100. On or before 60 days before the trip: Forfeit 50% of tour cost. After 60 days before the trip: \$100 per person.

INSURANCE: Since the areas we travel to on this trip are remote and wild (that’s why we go there!), we require medical evacuation insurance for our guests’ safety. If you decline the medical evacuation insurance coverage offered by Natural Habitat, we request that you send us documentation of the independent coverage you have selected. We will add the cost of a medical evacuation policy to your tour invoice until you provide our office with proof of coverage including your insurance company’s name, contact number and your individual policy number. Thank you for understanding that our policy exists exclusively in the interest of our guests’ safety..

To protect your investment and to provide peace of mind while you travel, we also strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance. Plans may cover everything from medical treatment to trip cancellations and delays and lost luggage. Please contact our office if you would like more information about the medical evacuation and comprehensive travel insurance policies we offer by calling 800-543-8917.

GETTING THERE & GETTING HOME:

Please plan to arrive in Maun, Botswana by 1:30 pm on Day 1 and you may depart Maun, Botswana any time after 1:30 pm on the final day.

We can best serve you if our Natural Habitat Adventures Travel Desk makes your reservations, as our staff is intimately familiar with the special requirements of these programs and can arrange the most efficient travel. Please call us at 800-543-8917. Note that while we offer you the best possible rates available to us on airfare and additional nights' accommodations, you may find special web rates or better fares online.