

PRIVATELY GUIDED SAFARI





SAFARI OVERVIEW

BOTSWANA

Day 1

Arrive Maun International Airport, Botswana

Fly with lightweight aircraft to Moremi Airstrip Luxury
Mobile Safaris Camp (3 nights)

Day 2 & 3

Moremi Game Reserve
Luxury Mobile Safaris Camp

Day 4

Drive through Moremi Game Reserve and then boat trip
through the Okavango Delta
Lightweight Expeditionary Camp (1 night)

Day 5

Boat to camp in Moremi Game Reserve
Luxury Mobile Safaris Camp (3 nights)

Day 6

Moremi Game Reserve
Luxury Mobile Safaris Camp

Day 7

Moremi Game Reserve
Luxury Mobile Safaris Camp

Day 8

Fly with lightweight aircraft to Makgadikgadi departure via
Johannesburg

Day 8

Final morning in the Okavango and private charter flight
(1hr) to **San Camp** in the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans
Experience the Pans.

Day 9

Morning with the Meerkats (horse riding optional) in the vast
Makgadikgadi.
Explore the Makgadikgadi by quad bike.

San Camp

Day 10

A final morning in the Makgadikgadi
Transfer by private charter for ongoing international
departure. (1 hr)

Day 11

A final morning in the Makgadikgadi
Transfer by private charter for ongoing international
departure. (1 hr)

ABOUT YOUR GUIDES



JOHN BARCLAY

John Barclay, raised in Botswana from a toddler, heralds from a long line of African pioneers and adventurers. His first safari to the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, aged 5, found him digging up a nest of Africa Rock Python newborns assisted by his caretaker, a bushman named Cobra. John's family has guided African safaris for five generations, the first guide in the family being his maternal great great grandfather, Major Richard Granville Nicholson, who escorted Princess Eugenie to see her son's grave and the site where he was killed in the Zulu war on the 1st June 1879.

John's passion for the stunning dunes and deltas of the Kalahari Desert, their inhabitants great and small and the Ju/hoasi Bushmen began as a youngster where; on an exhilarating clear and cold night spent out in the Kalahari Desert with a broken down safari car, a mumbling lion researcher and under the watchful eyes of a pride of 7 lions he helped repair the tyre and then unroll his bedroll and fall peacefully asleep under the vehicle, happy days. On John's father's side, the Barclays arrived in South Africa in the 1840s. John's Dad, an engineer, was the safari equipment tinkerer and his Mum, growing up with two leopards and a banded mongoose as pets, could tell an incredible story. She was the care-giver and would often make nursing miracles bringing all sorts of wild animals back from near-death to full health. John grew up around the safari industry. John's uncle; Ralph Bousfield, owner of Jack's Camp in the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans and rated as Africa's top guide is his mentor. Ralph's respect for and knowledge of the Bushmen and the Kalahari environment rubbed off on John from very early on in his career and John had the great fortune to spend many exciting safaris learning from Ralph.

After graduating from Rhodes University John flirted for a year with a 'real' job in London but decided to trade his desk in for an exciting guiding career with his Uncle Ralph at Uncharted Africa leading the Uncharted Africa Mobile Safaris Expeditions into the most adventurous corners of the incredible country of Botswana including the wonderful Okavango Delta, the stark Makgadikgadi Salt pans and the wide expanses of the Central Kalahari. Under the guidance of Ralph he carved a name for himself as a guide and achieved substantial recognition within the safari industry leading his previous mobile safari team to win the coveted Good Safari Guide Award - Best Mobile Operator in Africa twice! John was featured in *Conde Naste Traveller*, *Elite Traveller* and the *Robb Report*, and was quoted and defined as "a young Robert Redford" by *Gala Magazine*, June 2012. His favourite thing to do whilst in the bush is to find a hidden spot by a likely waterhole, and wait and observe the interesting behaviour of whomever comes down to drink and learn something new.

ABOUT YOUR GUIDE/HOST

JAMES STENNER



From a young age, growing up in Northumberland in the North East of England, James dreamt about the 'Wild Continent' and always took great interest in African wildlife. Born into a family of English traditions with an adventurous rural upbringing, during his childhood years James was often to be found at sea, racing his family yachts in international competitions.

James has a colourful family history, descending from his Great Great Grandfather 'Hexham Jack' a famed bear wrestler and travelling circus legend. James takes his passion of photography from his Grandmother, who was a leading fashion and landscape photographer for Vogue Magazine in post-war Europe. James has always been a nature and wildlife fanatic and prior to arriving in Botswana lead an active and diverse life rising through the creative events industry in the UK and Australia. Due to his upbringing in a large and lively family, it is in his nature to warmly engage with people and make them feel at home straight away.

James was privately educated in England and following graduation from university spent 9 years circumnavigating the Australian continent, fundraising for a national charity in between running a weekly radio show and documenting his adventures for a well know travel website.

Since stepping foot on the African continent, he has embarked on the journey his childhood dreams were made of. James began working in Botswana for Uncharted Africa Safari Co. where he was responsible for running the company's mobile safaris and expeditions in the Okavango Delta, Central Kalahari Game Reserve and Western Kalahari. During his time there, together with John, they were awarded with Best Mobile Safari in Africa award in both 2013 and 2014 at the Good Safari Guide Awards. In 2018, following a two year training process with African Guide Academy in the Okavango Delta James became the first ex-pat in twelve years to be qualified as a full professional guide in Botswana.

James has embarked on some adventurous expeditions in Botswana; completing a trans Okavango by boat 450kms through the entire Okavango system, also canoeing the Boteti River and supporting a horse riding expedition through Northern Botswana for 750kms. Further afield James has enjoyed exploring Angola, Namibia, theDRC, Madagascar and Ethiopia. His enthusiasm about people, as much as that of the African wilderness and its inhabitants has earned him the reputation of being one of the best hosts in Botswana today.



BOTSWANA

MOBILE SAFARI

MONTH TO MONTH TRAVEL CALENDAR

JULY

The floods arrive, both in the northern Okavango Delta after a slow journey from the Angolan highlands thousand of kilometres away. The paradox is obvious: the flood arrives when dust and dryness pervade and the rains have long gone. The leaves continue to fall from the trees and the grasses are getting drier and shorter every day. This means that visibility for game viewing is excellent. The nights are still cold but the days are warm and pleasant. This is the typical Botswana weather, sunny and clear. More and more animals congregate near the water and flood plains for grazing. This a special time of the year as water spreads into areas where there was none the day before and the mokoro and boat trips become more exciting as new areas can now be explored. Soft early morning and evening light, combined with dust, produces many stunning photo opportunities. Meanwhile in the desert - There is no water left. The nights are frozen. The humidity drops to such an extent cracks on your lips form almost instantly. The grass is baked a biscuit dry. Few animals are left in the fossil river valleys and hanging out at a waterhole can be most rewarding. Daytime temperatures eventually rise to a pleasant mid 20°C but the temperatures at night can fall to below 0°C! Gloves, thermals and hats are the standard for early morning and evening drives!

OKAVANGO DELTA

BOTSWANA

The Okavango Delta in northern Botswana, covers 20,000 square kilometres and is the largest inland delta in the world. Flowing for approximately 300 kilometres from the pan handle in the north to the Thamalakane River in the south, the water is crystal clear, naturally filtered by the sand and aquatic vegetation that forms the delta's basin.

The delta is a natural phenomenon and is relatively young in geological terms. The source of this African oasis is in Angola, entering Botswana 1,600 kilometres later as the Okavango River. Here the fate of the flow is determined by a series of parallel fault lines. As it passes over the first, it splits and fans into a number of waterways and channels that from space look like the fingers of a giant hand. The second and third fault lines act as a natural bund guiding the flow down their length until reaching Maun.

The view from the air is one of breathtaking magnificence, a maze of meandering channels, papyrus reed walls and intermittent palm islands - a paradise encircled by the sands of the Kalahari. This dynamic ecosystem, in which today's channels may be the islands of tomorrow, provides a permanent and seasonal home to prolific bird and wildlife. Spectacular herds of elephant roam, buffalo graze, antelope species congregate under the watchful eye of predators such as lion, hyena, leopard and the less common cheetah and wild dog. This is a truly remarkable area for bird watching, game viewing and photography.

Through the signature cry of the fish eagle under clear African skies, the Okavango Delta extends an open invitation to indulge in its mystery. The thrill of exploring its wild corners by game drive vehicle, the intimacy and unique connection of rambling on foot, and the sheer peace of floating in a mokoro amidst the large leaves of lily scattered lagoons, all experiences without parallel.



MOREMI GAME RESERVE

BOTSWANA

This gem was established by local residents. Concerned about the rapid depletion of wildlife in their ancestral lands – due to uncontrolled hunting and cattle encroachment – the Batawana people of Ngamiland, under the leadership of the deceased Chief Moremi III's wife, Mrs. Moremi, took the bold initiative to proclaim Moremi a game reserve in 1963.

It is the only officially protected area of the Okavango Delta, and as such holds tremendous scientific, environmental and conservation importance.

And, undoubtedly, Moremi ranks as one of the most beautiful reserves in Africa, possibly in the world.

Wildlife species that can be found include elephant, jackal, buffalo, southern giraffe, Burchell's zebra, greater kudu, lion, leopard, cheetah and spotted hyena. A large wild dog and hyena population occur here, and in June/July when the hyena and the wild dogs seek out a new den site the community keeps a close eye on them reporting back their chosen secret spot which provides us with a glimpse into these incredibly rare predators. The birdlife here is prolific.

Due to the density of the plains game in the open floodplains, the predator counts is almost unnaturally high and Khwai is known to have the highest density of leopard anywhere in Botswana. Exploring a track with the Khwai river on the one side and riparian bush packed with countless animals on the other side of you - and not knowing which way to look is a pleasure inducing overload of all one's senses.





PRIVATE CANVAS

No safari is complete without time spent under canvas in the style of the old explorers. Our private mobile-tented camp allows us to visit some of the most beautiful and remote wilderness areas in Botswana, unhindered by any schedule or crowds of other people. The camp gives us the flexibility to position our camps for the best game viewing possible.

Designed from decades of experience, your mobile camp provides the ultimate in luxurious exclusivity whilst allowing for an intimate wildlife experience. Each of the traditional canvas tents have en-suite flush toilets and showers and are insect proof. Meals are taken in a central dining tent and are freshly prepared according to your family's needs. A full crew of exceptional safari staff are there to look after your every need, whether it is preparing a beautifully laid dinner under the stars or a piping hot shower upon return from your afternoon's adventures. For those who want to be kept active during their time in camp, activities range from photographic workshops, to learning about Botswana's wildlife, birdlife, and people.





DAYS 1 - 3

Arrive Maun International Airport, Botswana

Fly with lightweight aircraft to Delta Airstrip

Luxury Mobile Safaris Camp (3 nights)

On landing in Maun, you will be escorted to your plane where you will fly directly to the Delta airstrip where John or James will be waiting for you with the safari car. Check into the Moremi Game Reserve for a week, to explore the mosaic habitat of Africa's greatest National Park.

Our private mobile camp, which provides a true experience of the land without sacrificing comfort, is set in a beautiful glade of lead wood trees in a lovely setting of secret pools and open grasslands. At night we gather around the campfire under a luminous canopy of stars, share stories, and enjoy the camaraderie of the safari experience. Our campsite is ours alone—though we are sometimes joined by hippos that come out at night to feed on the grass near our tents—and the enchanting sound of bell frogs serenades us to sleep.



DAY 4

Fly camp expedition through the Okavango Delta

Luxury Mobile Safaris Fly - Camp (1 night)

We will take the option to boat, walk, heli or mekorro through gentle waterways of the Okavango to a remote unnamed island in the heart of the delta. This region offers a contrasting experience to the vehicle based activities of Moremi. We will base ourself on this island for a night with an adventure camp. Accommodation will be in 2-man mosquito tents with a separate safari toilet and safari shower. Meals will be cooked by our chef and dining will be outdoors at our dining table.

Here we will explore by boat and on foot, looking behind the scenes so often missed in a vehicle to learn about how the ecosystem works up close, while the hundreds of birds add to the feeling of serenity in one of the Okavango's least explored areas. We will see wildlife along the way including elephant, hippo and lechwe. We are less likely to see predators but on occasion, lion.

DAY 5 - 7

Boat back down the channel and meet up with our safari car again

Luxury Mobile Safaris Camp (3 nights)

Moremi Game Reserve

Departing the island by boat, we will find ourselves back where we left our vehicles after a couple of hours. We will drive to our new campsite in the Moremi Game Reserve where our same camp that has moved from Khwai now awaits us with a warm face towels and a cold Gin and Tonic.

Here, we will explore this different landscape, more permanent delta, marginal floodplains and big game country and wildlife in the area with our safari car. This is James and John's backyard. Also home to elephant, buffalo, lion, leopard, cheetah, and the rare wild dog, along with exceptional populations of birdlife and raptors. This area has typically more water than where our camp was in Khwai, providing us with varied topography and opportunities for a swim...

“The professional set up and service of your camp is incredible! In the wild! I had the best time with the best people ”

CRYSTAL HEFNER, *PERSONAL LETTER TO BARCLAY STENNER*



DAY 8

Final morning game drive in the Okavango after a leisurely breakfast in camp.

Private Charter flight to the Makgadikgadi

San Camp (3 nights)

In order to experience Botswana in all its glory of natural wonder and end your safari in true style at the opulent San Camp we fly by private charter to the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans where your private vehicle will await you.

The contrast of the Delta to the Desert is unrivalled and our favourite way to round up a truly special adventure.

Once settled in to our new surrounds we will meet for tea in the tea tent before exploring the desert in the great open nothing of the silent Makgadikgadi.

MAKGADIKGADI SALT PANS





MAKGADIKGADI & NXAI PAN

BOTSWANA

The great grass plains of Makgadikgadi and the associated pan complexes of Sowa, Ntwetwe and Nxai lie south east of the Okavango Delta. Relics of one of the world's largest super lakes, these pans dried up thousands of years ago as a result of tectonic activity in the earth's crust.

Makgadikgadi was formed some five million years ago and was once almost thirty metres deep covering an area of 80,000 square kilometres. As the water evaporated, huge glistening salt-encrusted pans remained which, in the heat of the day, are transformed into disorientating mirages. Just north of Makgadikgadi are the fossil lakebeds of Nxai Pans, an area of forty square kilometers that is rather more generously scattered with acacia trees. This area is almost entirely devoid of human habitation. The desolate pans, seemingly endless, are filled with ancient mystique, as whirlwinds skate over the dusty surface of this truly unique ecosystem. The dramatic appearance of the pans at their driest provides a contrasting experience to the occurring transformation when the rains arrive and the Boteti River floods into the pans. Water birds are plentiful and the pan surface takes on a deep pink hue from the arrival of 30,000 pairs of Greater and Lesser Flamingos - the largest breeding flock in Africa.

The rains instigate spectacular game viewing opportunities from vehicle, foot or quad bike, as grazing herds of zebra, springbok and wildebeest amble into the area, accompanied by their predatory followers in the form of lion, cheetah and hyena. Large herds of giraffe, gemsbok, Greater Kudu, Red Hartebeest and eland also feature. Colonies of meerkats can be experienced in their natural habitat, and interactions with these cooperative, yet cheeky, mammals makes for great entertainment. Although Makgadikgadi and Nxai Pans have been cited as the 'Serengeti of the south', the prime objective in visiting is to experience the enticing allure of absolute remoteness, desolate beauty and isolation.

DAY 9

San Camp

A morning with the meerkats !

We rise early and take a packed breakfast with us to enjoy whilst watching the sunrise over the salt pans, eagerly awaiting the first meerkat of the family to make its first sign of life at the dawn of a new day.

We spend the morning as a private group walking with the whole group of meerkats and as they get used to us we sit quietly and wait for the excitement of a centurion duty member using us as their century post.

In the afternoon enjoy the most spectacular setting for a siesta followed by afternoon showers and tea in San Camps epic tea tent, you may enjoy it so much you choose to chill and enjoy the sound down in camp.



DAY 10

San Camp

Bushmen and exploring the pans by ATV quad bike

On your last full day on safari we'll take it continue to take it easy by enjoying a morning walk with the Kalahari Bushmen.

Follow and learn as you spend the morning on foot foraging, setting traps and learning how to light a fire by hand.

After a delicious lunch in the airy mess tent, we will set off on quad bikes way out into the pans for an afternoon and evening you will never forget.





Day 11

International Departures

Private Charter flight to Maun for connections to on going destinations or safari extensions.

On your last morning on safari we might even enjoy a lie in and enjoy our surrounds in San Camp with Eggs Benedict and freshly baked muffins before we slowly make our way to the airstrip for your ongoing journey.





SAFARI COST

The cost for the safari will be detailed with a breakdown for each section of the trip via email.

The cost includes:

Professional private guide(s) and exclusive use of vehicle throughout your safari.
Private camp throughout your safari (excludes San Camp)
Full board accommodation and all meals
All private charter flights as described in the itinerary
All drinks including soft drinks, beer, house wine and spirits
Laundry service
All game drives and park fees
Flying doctor emergency evacuation
with Okavango Air Rescue

The cost does not include:

Optional horse ride at San
Camp
International flights including flights from Johannesburg to Maun
Anything of a personal nature
Trip Cancellation and health insurance
Any options not described in the itinerary
Visa and passport fees
Gratuities

STANDARD SAFARI TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please see our separate Covid Terms and Conditions document.

Bookings and Payments

All safaris are booked on a 'first-come, first-served' basis.

Booking Fee

Due to the individual nature of our safaris, a non-refundable booking deposit of 30% must be received before your safari dates can be confirmed. This fee is non-refundable and it will be deducted from the total amount payable for the safari.

Payments

- The final payment is due 90 days before your safari departure date.
- Payments made to Barclay Stenner Safari Company. Payment by bank wire transfer is preferred. Credit cards are not accepted.

Cancellation

The booking deposit is a non-refundable booking

From 90 days to your departure date there is a 100% cancellation fee

Your itinerary and costing is subject to change in the event of exceptional cost increases such as fuel surcharges and park fees, or extreme currency fluctuations.

Risks and Insurance

While participating under Barclay Stenner arrangements with our safari operators, certain unavoidable risks and dangers may occur, including but not limited to: accidents, illness, travel by air, automobile, or other conveyance, wildlife and the forces of nature.

You will be in isolated, rugged and wilderness terrain, often away from medical facilities, and involved in activities that are potentially dangerous such as: climbing, game spotting, horseback riding, canoeing, and nature walks.

Neither Barclay Stenner, nor our safari operators accept responsibility or liability for any injury, loss or damage suffered by any person or property from any cause whatsoever.

We do, however, make all our clients members of a medical air evacuation service, which if conditions are right, will provide an emergency air ambulance evacuation to the nearest hospital.

Neither Barclay Stenner nor its operators accepts responsibility for any delay prior to or during the course of our safaris brought about by strikes, weather conditions or any other circumstances beyond our control. If Barclay Stenner judges any destination to be unsafe it will offer to reschedule, relocate, or refund your trip. If field conditions should not be optimum due to weather conditions, operators reserve the right to change the itinerary at any time. All individuals come on safari at their own risk and must therefore provide their own travel, health and insurance coverage during the safari. In addition, we strongly advise guests to take out cancellation insurance to cover any possibilities of personal health or family matters that would result in the inability to travel.



“All I wanted to do now was get back to Africa. We had not left it yet, but when I would wake in the night I would lie, listening, homesick for it already”

ERNEST HEMINGWAY, GREEN HILLS OF AFRICA