Vent Nouveau s.a.l.
TRAVEL & TOURISM
Since 1970

BOTSWANA
5 - Day Itinerary

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Let our experts smooth your journey between Botswana's most thrilling destinations and take you straight to the heart of this fascinating land. Experience extreme diversity as you explore the waterways of the Okavango Delta, view the famed Big Five in the forested Moremi Wildlife Reserve, or listen to the rumble of elephants through Chobe National Park. Over 1,100 species of animals and birds exist in abundance in these varied wildernesses and this land known as the Jewel of Africa.

Day 1 – Flights Mack Air: Maun Airport to Belmond Eagle Island Lodge

Private charter flight will depart within 30 - 60 minutes of your arrival at Maun Airport.

Day 2 – Accommodation at Belmond Eagle Island Lodge in a Deluxe Tented Room on a fully inclusive basis for 2 nights

Your time in Botswana will be spent viewing games in the beautiful and unique wilderness of the Okavango Delta and its surrounds. Over 1100 animal, fish, bird and plant species exist in the various ecosystems which comprise the Delta. Few people are privileged enough to visit this inaccessible area, as can be seen and felt by the abundance of wildlife and the utter tranquility in the camps.

Situated on the island of Xaxaba, this cool retreat, shaded by a canopy of indigenous trees and Ilala Palms, overlooks a surrounding lagoon fed by the tranquil waterways of the Delta. The area offers prolific birdlife and mammal sightings. It is also the site of one of the most romantic bars in the world, the Fish Eagle Bar, as quoted by The New York Times. Belmond Eagle Island Lodge offers game viewing by mokoro (traditional dugout canoe) or by motorized boat, which is particularly enjoyable as you sip your sundowner at the end of the day. When water levels are low (December through March), morning, afternoon and evening game drives are available. And for the intrepid and the energetic, safari walks are offered all year round.

DAILY ACTIVITIES Summer – October to March

06h00 Wake-up
06h30 Light breakfast
07h00 Departure on game viewing activity / Refreshments served on activity
10h30 / 13h30 A la carte lunch served in camp at your leisure:
16h00 Afternoon tea followed by a game viewing activity /Refreshments served on game viewing activity
20h00 / 20h30 Dinner
Snacks are served on the afternoon game activities in both summer and winter.

SAFARI ACTIVITIES

Motorized Boating Eagle Island Lodge offers game viewing in a motorized boat. These trips allow you to cover more ground, and should allow you to see more of the landscape, wildlife and birdlife.
Helicopter Safaris Helicopter flights over Botswana are one of life's big adventures. This is the Okavango Delta as you have never experienced it before: remote, inaccessible lakes and islands as well as an abundance of game seen from the sky.
Walking Safari On a walking safari through the Delta you are totally enveloped in nature. You spot amazing things close-up: an insect, animal tracks, big game droppings, swarming termite mounds. These small, unexpected aspects of life often make the biggest impression.
Mokoro Canoe Safari This traditional dugout canoe takes you gliding over shallow, clear waters past brilliant water lilies and papyrus grasses to areas inaccessible by boat.
Bird Watching Many people come to Eagle Island purely to experience its huge variety of birds. The 400 land and aquatic species drawn by the watery Okavango Delta make for unrivalled viewing.
Fishing The waters are rich with tilapia, spotted and silver catfish also inhabit these lazy pools. African pike, infamous fighters, are a favorite snare. If you have never fished before, this is the ultimate place to start.
Village Life Eagle Island Camp is located close to Xaxaba village. Fortunate visitors may be invited into a private home to experience aspects of its residents' way of life. This is no tourist attraction, but a community of people who have adapted ancient traditions to modern times.
Please note that if the water-levels at Eagle Island Lodge are low, water activities may not be possible. We will then offer game drives in place of the motorized boating / mokoro safaris

Day 3 – Flight Mack Air: Belmond Eagle Island Lodge to Belmond Savute Elephant Lodge

The departure time of your private charter flight will be advised the evening before your flight by the lodge staff .

Day 3 - 4 - 5 – Accommodation at Belmond Savute Elephant Lodge in a Luxury Tented Room on a fully inclusive basis for 2 nights

Belmond Savute Elephant Lodge hosts a cluster of twelve room residences raised on wooden platforms. Each has an outdoor lounge and is shaded by a traditional thatch roof. The large, private decks are furnished with easy chairs and a hammock. These are ideal for viewing wildlife, or for enjoying a private dinner in complete privacy.

Perched on the banks of the Savute Channel, with an elevated view of the river, Belmond Savute Elephant Lodge is a spectacular base from which to explore the area. Savute is also unrivaled for its sightings of excellent predator / prey interaction and is a 'must stay' on any Southern Africa safari. Not to be missed is the Zebra Migration during the

months of February and October, when the nutritious grasses of the Savute Marsh attract large herds of zebras. Savute is also home to some very rare rock paintings by Bushmen who once inhabited the region, and its little forests of ancient Baobabs.

Ancient treasures out in the bush, where rocks rear up among stony hills, are a collection of paintings that take your breath away. These works by Bushmen are thought to be more than 1,500 years old—beautiful images of elephants, giraffes and eland antelope. Normally these types of painting might be found hidden in caves, but here, they are out in the wide, open landscape. No-one knows what materials the bushmen used, but the paint is thought to be a mixture of snake venom, blood and plant juices. After viewing these paintings, continue to the amazing baobab grove—a cathedral-like cluster of 13 giant trees that rival the Bushmen's paintings in age. Stand among these towering columns at sunset, as the evening light bathes them in a russet glow and drinks are handed round—and wonder at this ancient land.

DAILY ACTIVITIES Summer – October to March

05h30 Wake up
05h45 / 06h15 Muffins, fresh fruit, tea and coffee in public area
06h00 / 06h15 Departure on game drive activity Breakfast snacks, tea and coffee on game drive
10h30 – 13h30 A la carte lunch served at your leisure in the lodge
15h30 Light afternoon tea followed by a game drive / Refreshments served on game drive
20h00 / 20h30 Dinner
Snacks are served on the afternoon game drive in both summer and winter.

SAFARI ACTIVITIES

Game Drives Early morning game drives take you out and among Africa's largest population of elephants. Big cats are on the prowl too—from leopards to lions. Depending on the season you will also experience the great migration of animals such as zebras and antelope. Rare sightings might include the endangered wild dog, rock-climbing klipspringers and the elegant roan antelope.
Bird Watching The intermittent Savute Channel, dry for 30 years, has recently started flowing past the camp again. With it came a host of new species. Now dry land birds such as bustards and secretary birds have suddenly been joined by more aquatic varieties.
Bushmen Paintings and Baobab Trees Out in the bush, where rocks rear up among stony hills, are a collection of paintings that take your breath away. These works by Bushmen are thought to be more than 1,500 years old—beautiful images of elephant, giraffe, and sable and eland antelope. After viewing these paintings, continue to the amazing baobab grove—a cathedral-like cluster of 13 giant trees that rival the Bushmen's paintings in age.

The Boma Gather around the campfire in this circular log hut and exchange your day's adventures, much as local villagers do in similar buildings throughout Botswana. Flames flicker and lamps glow as drinks are served; a choir sings traditional songs and invites you to a buffet of African specialties. Then take a comfortable seat and listen as camp guides recount tales of the bush. Musicians strike up traditional songs and the evening often ends with everyone on their feet, dancing to rhythms handed down through generations.
Star Gazing The open skies around Savute camp make it the perfect place to experience the vast, dark dome of the African night sky .

Day 5 – Flight Mack Air: Belmond Savute Elephant Lodge to Maun Airport

The departure time of your private charter flight will be advised the evening before your flight by the lodge staff.