

# TRACKS SAFARIS

## WE GET YOU CLOSER



**11 NIGHT/12 DAY TRANS-OKAVANGO KAYAK SAFARI**

**A WILD ADVENTURE!**



### **DESCRIPTION OF TRACKS SAFARIS TRANS-OKAVANGO SAFARI**

A kayaking safari really gets you closer to Africa and on this exciting trans-Okavango itinerary you will be kayaking and walking on most days, camping on palm islands in the Okavango Delta and really getting closer to Africa!

Kayaks used are Wilderness Systems Tsunami 125 single seat kayaks - these are highly versatile touring kayaks that offer comfort, manoeuvrability and stability.

The groups' fitness and ability is assessed en route and can adjust daily distances accordingly. If we fall too far behind our itinerary due to slow paddling speed we can catch up lost time by motor boating.



Two motorboats travel with the group carrying all equipment, food etc - one in front of the group to scout for hippo/croc etc and one behind the group that can respond to any situation that may develop.

Staff set up camp, cook, wash, set up ablutions, dismantle camp and generally look after guests needs and requirements. Staff will offer guests hot bucket showers in the evenings and you are welcome to participate in general camp work only if you would like to.

A usual day would see guests waking up around 6 am with coffee, tea and biscuits around the campfire before setting off on a walk (where possible), usually about an hour and half. Coming back from the walk, breakfast will be ready, usually eggs, bacon/Boerewors/sausage, toast and baked beans, coffee/ tea/ fruit juice.

After breakfast, we pack up the camp. Guests set off in kayaks around 9.30am. We kayak until lunch, around 1 pm stopping to game view along the way. After lunch, typically, cold meats, salad, bread, cheese, we usually paddle until around 4pm when we stop, set up camp and relax a bit before going on an evening walk (where possible) of about an hour and half, come back to camp, shower and relax while dinner is cooked and served. Dinner is usually chicken/steak/lamb/kudu with rice/pap/potato/couscous and butternut/peas and carrots/stir fry mixed vegetables. We cater for vegetarians, vegans and those with allergies and dietary restrictions - we just need to be informed when the booking is made.

Tents are Campmor Timbavati (or similar) 2 man tents 2.1m x 2.1m. The bedding is bedrolls with mattress, cotton sheet, duvet, pillow and extra blankets in winter.

First aid kits and satellite communications are carried and on one motorboat there are inverters and solar panels that guests can use to charge batteries and a fridge / freezer.

Safaris are inclusive of all food, some soft drinks and beers, dinner wine, snacks, sweets, drinking water and National park and/or Community Controlled Wildlife Management Area fees.

Guest should be made aware that there is an element of risk by participating on a kayaking/walking safari – you are going into a natural environment where there are dangerous animals about. Having said that, guest's safety is of prime concern and decisions default on the side of the safest option possible.



## ITINERARY

Please note the itinerary is as close as possible to describe - routes change every year due to the unpredictable nature of the area we are operating in and variable abilities of different groups.

### DAY ONE

You will be picked up from Maun Airport and transferred to Old Bridge Backpackers for a pre-night – this is essential as there will be an early morning start on day two.

### DAY TWO

You will be met and picked up from The Old Bridge Backpackers at 8.00 am and drive by road to Sepopa arriving there around 1pm. From Sepopa you will be driven by motor boat to Ikoga island approximately 15 km where the camp will be set up and lunch will be served. You can familiarise yourself with the kayaks and take an evening boat ride and then dinner will be served around 8pm before retiring to your tent for your first night under the stars.

### DAY THREE

After breakfast you will set off in kayaks and depending on water levels, you will have lunch on an island or on the boats. We will kayak about 38km to Etsatsa island usually arriving around 4pm where the camp will be set up for you. This is a small island but for bird watchers it can be exciting with the chance of seeing Pels Fishing owl.

### DAY FOUR

After breakfast - kayak. We will stop for lunch on the boats and arrive Little Duba Island around 4pm. This island can be good for walks when water levels allow.

### DAY FIVE

Breakfast and kayak. Today you will get out of the Panhandle part of the Delta and into an area with more open landscape with small islands. The route in this area changes every year so we will be route finding - but we should try to cover at least 30km. In the afternoon we will find a suitable island to camp on and hopefully be able to take walks.

### DAY SIX

Breakfast and kayak. Today will be a long day on the water as the flow rate will be slow and we may muddle about finding a suitable route. We should, even if it means getting on motorboats, get to Xijera on this day.

### DAY SEVEN

Kayak Xijera to Fridge Island in the Xo flats, about 35km. Your camp will be set up on a suitable spot for dinner and overnight.

### DAY EIGHT

Today is a rest day and you will enjoy a motorboat safari through the Moremi Game Reserve. It's a good day for photography as the boat offers some elevation and the viewing, birds and game, is usually very good. We will take lunch en-route on an island and arrive at Xaxaba at around 3pm in time to settle in and have an evening walk.

### DAY NINE

This morning enjoy a morning walk and after breakfast kayak about 30km to Moporota island in NG 32 ( a community controlled wildlife management area CCWMA) . In the evening we will include a walk on the island.

### DAY TEN

Morning walk and then kayak about 30km. There is a choice of camps here depending on how much kayaking you are keen to do, still in CCWMA NG 32. In the evening take a walk on the island you are camping on.

### DAY ELEVEN

Morning walk and then we will kayak as far as you would like to - ending in Maun. Today's kayaking will be about 45km, or you can get into the boats at any point. Overnight at Old Bridge Backpackers.

**DAY TWELVE**

Old Bridge Backpackers will transfer you to Maun Airport for your outbound flight normally around midday.

**ITEMS RECCOMENDED FOR GUESTS TO BRING**

Towel  
Hat, preferably a broad brim  
Closed walking shoes  
Swim costume  
Long trousers for evening  
Long sleeve light shirt for kayaking  
Sunblock ideally SPF 50  
Personal toiletries  
Some warm clothing

**INCLUSIONS**

Room only at Old Bridge Backpackers (pre and post nights)  
Fully Inclusive basis on the 9 night mobile safari  
National Park Entrance Fees where stated  
Intercamp road / boat transfers where necessary

**EXCLUSIONS**

International / regional flights  
Visas  
Additional meals, drinks, park fees and activities not specified as well as all meals and drinks whilst at Old Bridge Backpackers  
Gratuities and items of a personal nature  
Personal medical and travel insurance



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