

Penduka mobile safaris - see, hear and feel Africa - under canvas and close to wildlife

A true safari - moving as you explore



What to bring and other useful information

Clothing

Pack practical and comfortable clothing that can be layered. Include shorts, long trousers, T-shirts, a long-sleeved shirt, and comfortable shoes. Sandals or flip-flops are a useful addition to wear around camp.

In winter (End May to Mid Sept)

Temperatures averaging 25 °C in the day and can drop close to 0°C at night.

The winter months can be deceptively cold, and you will need warm clothing for the early morning game drives and in the evenings. A good quality fleece and light wind proof jacket, long trousers or Jeans, socks, gloves, scarf and warm hat – don't worry, by about 10am you will be back in T shirt and shorts! Dressing in layers is the easiest way to deal with the varying temperatures during the winter months.

In summer (Mid September to End May)

Temperatures - averaging 35°C in the day and drop to around 20°C at night.

Late September and October can be extremely hot reaching 40°C at times, bring cool loose clothing, a good sunhat and plenty of sun cream. Some people like to bring a small water mister with them. A wet sarong can also cool you down when having a siesta.

In the rainy season (Nov to March) a lightweight rain jacket is recommended plus a couple of plastic bags or zip lock bags to protect your possessions.

Don't forget the following essentials:

- Sunscreen
- Wide brimmed sun hat or cap
- Sunglasses
- Good binoculars
- Camera, lenses, chargers, and an extra memory card For best results in wildlife photography the use of a telephoto lens (minimum 200mm) is recommended.
- Day pack to keep a few things with you in the vehicle
- Good LED torch with spare batteries plus a head torch.
- Basic first aid supplies including rehydration salts.
- Insect repellent and after bite
- Toiletries and a washcloth (towels provided).
- Sarong

All towels and bed linen are provided

Charging

We have a 12v to 220v invertor for charging – please bring your own adaptors.

The vehicles also have a 12v cigarette lighter and we have multi chargers suitable for charging with USB cables, 2 pin plugs and South African 3 round pin plugs.

Reference Books and Maps

We carry reference books and maps with us, however if you want to purchase your own, we recommend:

The Roberts bird guide of Southern Africa.

Veronica Roodt has a series of very good books available – from The Mammals of Botswana to The Wildflowers Water plants and Grasses of the Okavango delta and Kalahari.

The Shell maps, again a whole series are available for the different areas and game reserves.

Please note that Maps and books can be bought in Maun before you leave.

Money

Credit cards (Visa and MasterCard) are widely accepted in Maun and cash wise bring US\$, Euros or Pounds. The local currency is Botswana Pula, this can be exchanged at the airport on arrival.

Luggage

Soft bags are preferable.

Note - If any part of your itinerary includes a flight in a light aircraft, there is a strict weight limit of 15kg per person including hand luggage.

If you know you will be in excess of this, arrangements will need to be made to store your luggage or an additional seat purchased to allow for this.

Please talk to our office to discuss your needs and the options.

Tipping

There is no fixed amount and tipping is entirely at your discretion. However, if you would like to tip, you can work on the following guideline. Per couple for a 7 to 10 day safari Guides \$100 Chef \$30 General Staff \$70 to be divided equally

Water & drinks

We provide the following drinks on safari: 2 L purified water per person per day Wine Beer Gin & Tonic for sundowners Soft drinks

If you would like any spirits, liqueurs, or anything special, please inform us and we can purchase this on your behalf before the safari.

Malaria

Botswana is considered a low-risk malaria region but please talk to your doctor for advice before travelling.

Laundry

We do not provide a laundry service, so it is best to pack items that can be rinsed and dried easily.

Health and Travel insurance

We strongly recommend you have both medical and travel insurance.

Your medical insurance must be comprehensive including medevac.

For added peace of mind when travelling on one of our Botswana safaris, Okavango Air Rescue offers an air ambulance service within Northern Botswana.

For a fee of \$15 you can become a patron for a year and in our opinion, it is an invaluable service.

Should the unforeseen happen OAR would assist you and fly you back to their medical facility in Maun to be stabilised and if needed they will authorise and help arrange a medevac through your own medical insurance.

Should you be interested, please go to www.okavangorescue.com where you can register and pay directly by credit card. Please let our office know before you travel, if you have become a patron of OAR.

Communications while you are away

We use 2-way radios and satellite phones to contact our office in Maun to relay and receive messages. If you would like to leave a contact email address with a friend or relative use info@pendukasafaris.com or sally@pendukasafaris.com

Tel +267 71300215 or +267 6864539 – though email is the most reliable.

Mobile phones

There is no reception outside the main towns in Botswana.

Visas

Please check with your embassy.

Most countries do not require visas and allow entry into the country for up to 90 days in a year. On arrival into Botswana US\$ 30 fee is charged, this can be paid in cash or by card.

Address in Botswana – for immigration arrival form.

Penduka Safaris, Tsanakonya Ward, Maun

Travelling with children under 18

Please check the up-to-date regulations before you travel, however currently when travelling in South Africa, Botswana and Namibia you are required to carry the following additional documents:

If both parents are travelling.

Unabridged birth certificate of each child

If only one parent is travelling.

- Affidavit from your spouse stating you have permission to travel with your child / children on it list the child's full names and passport numbers as well as both parents.
- Certified copy of spouse's passport
- Unabridged birth certificate of each child

If you have any other questions, please email us info@pendukasafaris.com

Penduka Safaris