

BOTSWANA 2025

Hide & Seek Tour

DAY 1	Oct 27th, 2025 • Check in at City Lodge in OR Tambo Airport Johannesburg • Group Dinner
DAY 2	Oct 28th, 2025 • Depart Johannesburg to Kasani airstrip. This is an international flight and is NOT included in the tour pricing. • Road Transfer to Pangolin Chobe Lodge, meet our Pangolin hosts and embark on our first photography boat tour on the Chobe River
DAYS 3 to 5	Oct 29th to Oct 31st, 2025 • Pangolin Chobe Lodge • Twice daily excursions via boat or safari vehicle
DAY 6	Nov 1st, 2025 • Pangolin Chobe Lodge – morning excursion • Transfer to Kasani airstrip and fly to Dinaka Camp in the Kalahari Desert • Afternoon game drive or hide activity
DAYS 7 to 8	Nov 1st to Nov 3rd, 2025 • Dinaka Camp • Twice daily excursions or hide activities
DAY 9	Nov 4th, 2025 • Dinaka Camp • Morning game drive or hide activity • Transfer to Maun and Thamalakane River Lodge • Optional activities available
DAY 10	Nov 5th, 2025 • Thamalakane River Lodge • Full day Mokoro activity
DAY 11	Nov 6th, 2025 • Thamalakane River Lodge • Optional morning activities are guest's choice (possible visit to Elephant Haven) • Air transfer to Johannesburg • Overnight at City Lodge (dinner included)

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DAY 12	Nov 7th, 2025 • AM flight from Johannesburg to Tuli Lodge • Afternoon game drive or overnight hide (Group A)
DAY 13	Nov 8th, 2025 • Tuli Lodge • AM game Drive • Afternoon game drive or overnight hide (Group B)
DAY 14	Nov 9th, 2025 • Tuli Lodge • AM game drive • PM game drive
DAY 15	Nov 10th, 2025 • AM Game drive from Tuli Lodge will transfer us to Mashatu Lodge • PM Game drive, Mashatu Lodge
DAY 16	Nov 11th, 2025 • Mashatu Lodge • AM game drive • PM game drive
DAY 17	Nov 12th, 2025 • Mashatu Lodge • AM Hide • PM game drive
DAY 18	Nov 13th, 2025 • Mashatu Lodge • AM game drive • PM Hide
DAY 19	Nov 14th, 2025 • Mashatu Lodge • AM game drive • Air transfer to Johannesburg • Guests return home

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SAFARI OVERVIEW brought to you by your friends **Marg & Shelly**

Group Size: Maximum of 8 participants (minimum 4 guests required)

DAY 1

Arrival at OR Tambo Airport

Check in to City Lodge at the Airport

Group Dinner



MAIN TOUR

DAY 2 to 5

Pangolin Chobe Hotel on the Chobe River



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The Pangolin Chobe Hotel sits on the plateau overlooking the Chobe River and Namibia's Caprivi flood plains which stretch out to the far horizon. The Chobe National Park boundary is a few hundred meters away meaning that guests are often the first vehicle through the gate for morning game drives.

The boats are moored on the river directly below the hotel and it is a quick five-minute transfer to the boat which gets you straight into the park.



- We will check in to the Chobe Pangolin Hotel on day 2 where you are able to enjoy the luxury of an eco-pool and amazing river views from your hotel room
- The chefs prepare wholesome meals and use local ingredients as much as possible. Guests can dine on the deck or in the dining room. Guests love the barbeque nights and gourmet pizzas cooked in a wood fire oven. They can cater to most dietary requirements. To say nothing of the bar upstairs, which has breathtaking views and the most delicious cocktails in Kasane.
- Here you will enjoy cruises on an eight-seater photo boat where you can hone your photography skills with the help of your Pangolin Photo Safari Host. The chairs turn 360 degrees allowing for maximum comfort
- This is a great place to start a wonderful safari. The hosts are all professional photographers who help you with your camera settings and make sure that you get the best shots.
- This portion of our tour includes
 - All your accommodation
 - All meals & laundry service
 - Two game activities per day (boat or drive)
 - Cameras, lenses and memory cards if required
 - Pangolin Photo Host
 - Daily photo review sessions (own laptop is required for this)
 - Park fees and tourism levies
 - Domestic airport transfers

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DAY 6 to 8

Dinaka Lodge, Central Kalahari



After making great memories and friends with our Pangolin Hosts, we will say goodbye and be transferred to our charter flight with Mack Air. This very scenic flight will take us to the central Kalahari Desert and Dinaka Lodge

As with other iconic African safari destinations, like the Okavango Delta or the Masai Mara, the Kalahari as a location instantly fills you with a sense of wonderment and adventure – rightly so as it is so very unlike most ecosystems in Botswana.

Dinaka, which means “horns” sits on a private concession of approximately 35000 hectares bordering the Central Kalahari Game Reserve – one of Africa’s largest protected areas. With the “bush” being so different in look and feel, it’s no wonder that the animals to be found here are so different from those in the wetter Chobe and Delta. Expect to see Oryx, Springbok, Brown Hyena, stunning bird life and of course the famed Kalahari Lions, Wild Dogs and Cheeta (Possibly even Meerkats!)

This camp is owned and managed by Ker and Downey and is operated with the impeccable standards that this legendary safari outfitter has perfected over 75 years of operation. There are 8 well proportioned tents arcing out from the central dining lounge and pool area. Each tent has a private veranda looking back to the waterhole. The ensuite included an excellent outdoor shower as well as an indoor shower)



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- Game drives are limited to four guests per vehicle and each seat has been modified to provide everyone with a bean bag camera mount built into the arm rest. There is plenty of room for gear and the guides are extremely accommodating when it comes to positioning for photography as well as altering your schedule to fit all your photographic ambitions.
- A real highlight of Dinaka is the “bunker-style” photographic hide which can seat up to eight photographers at water level a few feet away from a small waterhole. With the Kalahari being so dry, the waterholes are very popular which makes this one of the best destinations for photography



- From a cultural perspective, you are able to spend a morning or afternoon walking with some local bushman guides looking for edible plants and tubers and learning how to make a fire – in the traditional way!
- Because Dinaka is on private land night drives and star photography are available. In fact, one place that must be visited during your stay is the lookout deck which, at only around 15m high, still gives you an amazing perspective and view across the super-flat landscape

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DAY 9 to 11

Thamalakane River Lodge

After a wonderful time spent in the Kalahari, our charter plane will take us to Maun where we will spend two nights at the luxurious Thamalakane River Lodge

The sandy track to the lodge leads into a large and dusty cobbled parking area where you'll find thatch-and-stone buildings that house the reception, curio shop, guest internet station, booking centre and office. Stone steps and sandy paths lead through the landscaped gardens around the chalets and main area with a swimming facility situated in a shady area. The chalets, public areas and the swimming facility take advantage of a 180-degree view of the riverbanks, lined with reeds and often visited by waterfowl and birds. Thamalakane River Lodge's acclaimed restaurant is something not to be missed. The splendour of the surroundings is matched only by the superb food. In addition to the famous signature dishes of the lodge, diners can also expect to find local seasonal treats on the regularly changing menu. The bar overlooks the pool area and the river where you can enjoy a sundowner while watching the waterbirds come home at sunset.

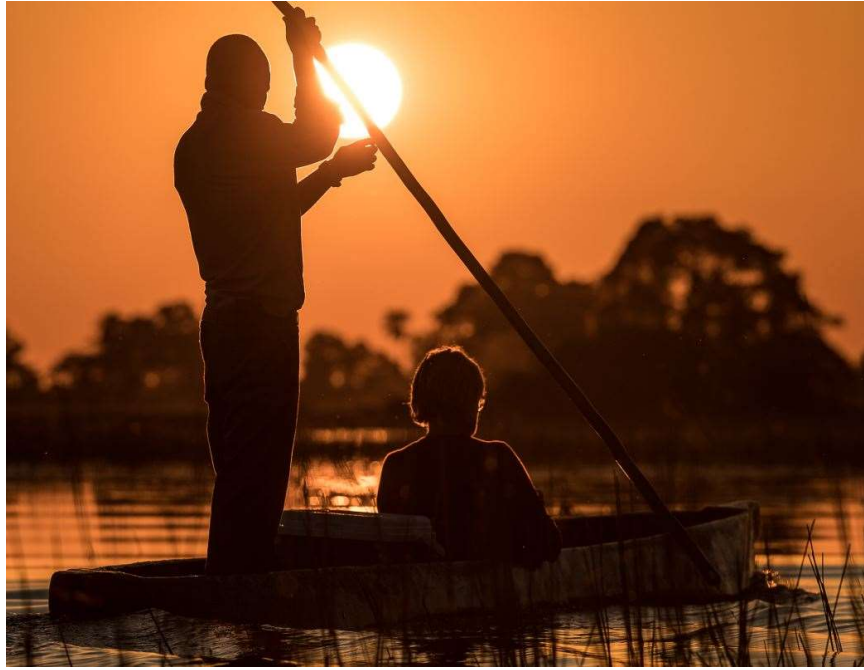
- All chalets feature basic tea and coffee making facilities, 220-volt universal plug points, a ceiling or standing fan, mosquito net, digital safe, freestanding wardrobe space, a desk and an ensuite bathroom with shower. Each chalet has a small patio with outdoor seating and a river view. Limited toiletries are provided as well as insect repellent and spray and mosquito coils.

Thamalakane Lodge Activities:

- **MOKORO FULL DAY TRIP (Included)**
 - At this lodge we are able to participate in various activities. Since it is difficult to decide on which activity is best, we (after much conversation and possibly a bit of heated disagreement 😊) decided to include what we feel is the most interesting activity for our full day at this location – an all day Mokoro Trip. This full day trip is with a local poler who will show you the small and large wildlife that the delta has to offer. This is a great opportunity to do a little macro photography or just get some shots of the tiny birds, frogs and beautiful insects of the delta. Members of our group can choose to participate in this activity or stay behind and relax.

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- Additional Activities available at a cost for our guests to sign up for:
 - BOAT CRUISE – this activity is dependant on the level of the river when we are at the lodge. Leaving the lodge/launching bay by boat for a cruise along the Boro River onto the Okavango Delta. Wonderful bird watching along the way will take you to an island where you can enjoy our lunch after a walk on one of the many islands while in the hands of a qualified guide. Lunch packs and drinks can be ordered at the restaurant.
 - GAME DRIVE – Thamalakane Lodge is at the heart of a phenomenal safari getaway to the famous Moremi Game Reserve. Full day game drive excursions are available and are done by qualified guides on a 9-seater game viewer vehicle. Our group would need to reserve a private vehicle well in advance
 - SCENIC FLIGHT – Scenic flights, if desired can be arranged. A one-hour scenic flight over the Delta with a transfer from the lodge to the airport and back. Transfers are upon request for helicopter, caravan or plane via email.
 - SUNSET BOAT CRUISE – Sunset boat cruises are available on the Thamalakane river overlooking the Maun wilderness (dependent on water levels). Our group would have two evenings to take advantage of this activity.
 - SPA– take some time to relax and recharge at the spa. Massages and pedicures are available – take some time to treat yourself....

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- ELEPHANT ORPHANAGE VISIT – the 140-acre Elephant Havens Orphanage is nestled along the banks of the Gomoti River, at the edge of the Okavango Delta. It is an ideal place for young elephants to live and receive daily care and companionship until they are ready to be reintroduced to the wild. Originally only 45 acres, the sanctuary has tripled in size and now has many amenities for staff and visitors. Along side the individual elephant enclosures (bomas), the fenced grounds also contain a fresh water well, veterinary office and lab and elephant milk-bottle prep kitchen. All of the buildings are solar powered



This brings us to Day 11 where optional morning activities are each guest's choice (possible visit to Elephant Haven as a group).

In the afternoon we will air transfer to the Maun Airport for our return to Johannesburg and overnight at City Lodge (dinner included). Here we will say goodbye to our friends that are not continuing on to the Mashatu Extension.

This ends the main portion of our tour, but you will want to stay with us for our exciting extension to the beautiful Mashatu Game Reserve

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TULI / MASHATU EXTENSION

DAY 12

Air Transfer to Mashatu Game Reserve

Our AM flight from Johannesburg will take us to Lansiere Airport where we will board our charter flight to Limpopo airstrip and the Wonderful Mashatu Game Reserve.

DAY 13 to 15

Tuli Lodge

Tuli Lodge is set on the bank of the mighty Limpopo River with beautiful rolling lawns surrounded by sandstone outcrops. This luxury 4-star camp has a swimming pool tucked away against giant rocks. A star gazing deck, a hide and walking trail within the lodge grounds as well as its own vegetable garden which supplies the kitchen with fresh ingredients. Eight luxury tented suits are spacious, airy and elevated. They present themselves as draped canvas walls and roof over timber frames. Large wrap-around decks provide a relaxing outdoor space with views over the gardens and surrounding bush. The interiors are a modern interpretation of the classic “out of Africa” décor with a flowing open plan design.

All suits feature an island bed, lounge area, freestanding bath, large shower, double basin vanity area, separate W.C. and ample storage space.

The extensive lodge gardens and grounds include a large swimming pool, waterhole, hide and walking trail. Additional activities include night drives and cultural experiences/village tours (a full day activity) not included in your safari but can be requested.

- While we are at Tuli Lodge our group will be divided into two groups of four. One group will stay in the new overnight hide on the first night (hope you slept well at City Lodge 😊) with the second group of four staying in the overnight hide on the second night.
- Game drives are available morning and evening. Star photography can also be arranged. On our last morning here, we will have a great breakfast after an early game drive. Our afternoon game drive will transfer us to Mashatu Main Lodge

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DAY 16 to 18

Mashatu Main Lodge

Mashatu Main lodge consists of fourteen luxury suites that lie along the camp's perimeter and are designed to allow absolute privacy and communion between the bush and its inhabitants. Watch elephants splashing at the waterhole, listen to the lyrical melody of the woodland's kingfisher on a branch overhead, smell the grassy scent of the bushveld and touch the bark of an ancient tree. Inhale a breath of air so pure it is intoxicating.

Each of the air-conditioned suites at Mashatu Lodge is tastefully decorated and includes impressive black and white prints of Africa's most beautiful wildlife. A double bed and an extra-large single bed, together with a seating area that includes a single day bed, comfortably accommodates families. The ample ensuite bathroom with both bath and shower facilities and separate W.C. complete the well-appointed suites.

Two large swimming pools are a focal point to cool down and relax between game activities.

Meals are a sumptuous celebration of traditional African Cuisine – flavoursome but lacking in ostentation. Fresh fruits, vegetables, home made breads and pies, succulent meat dishes and delicious desserts will appeal to a guest who appreciates home cooking at its best.

With a fully stocked curio shop for retail therapy, discover room offering a glimpse into another world with ancient relics that will amaze, and an on-site spa offering luxurious and relaxing treatments – Mashatu Lodge has something for everyone.

- While at Mashatu Main Lodge we will spend one morning drive at the elephant hide and one evening drive at the hide. There may be additional opportunities, if desired, for hide activities versus morning or afternoon drives. This cost is not included in our pricing (approximately \$90.00 USD). If you predict that you would like to spend more time in the hide please let us know as soon as possible to allow us to book the hide time

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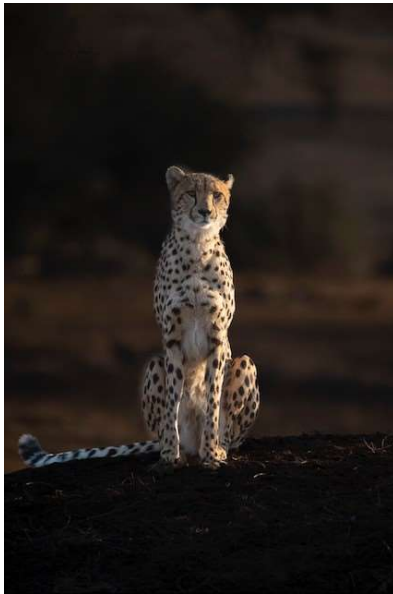
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- **VALUE OF MASHATU LODGE**
 - This location is recommended for photographers of all levels that want to experience and photograph the best of African wildlife in pristine wilderness while improving their photographic skills
 - Fitness level is low to average. You will be required to climb onto and off of a safari vehicle as well as some short walks. The terrain over which you will drive is unpaved and can be bumpy and dusty
 - This tour is designed to get photographers into the best areas to “get the shots”. Here is where you will take your wildlife photography from “good” to “great”
 - There is a fantastic sunken photographic hide on the reserve, giving the wildlife the opportunity to seek you out. This hide has produced several award-winning images. It is perfectly positioned to utilise the light, and because of the low perspective, the backgrounds are incredible. When the elephants aren’t around many species of mammals and birds also use the waterhole. There is usually something exciting to photograph
 - We will have at least one morning session in this hide as well as one afternoon session included in our tour. It is possible to request additional sessions for an additional cost
 - Exclusive use of two private game drive vehicles with four guests on each vehicle (Marg and Shelly will take the front seat next to the driver so that everyone has a complete row to themselves)
- **HIGHLIGHTS OF MASHATU LODGE**
 - Safari Highlights
 - The driver/guides have years of experience with photographers and do some photography on their off time. They have been on this reserve for many years and understand positioning & light as well as animal behaviour
 - One night of your stay will be spent at the Lala Limpopo sleep-out hide (included in the tour price). This offers the opportunity to spend long amounts of time with predators & elephants with beautiful backdrops.
 - One morning and one afternoon at the underground photo hide
 - Mid day can be spent sharing your great captures and seeing how others download and edit their photos
 - Photography Highlights
 - Close quarter photography of predators such as lions, cheetahs and leopards
 - Excellent open sightings and photography of very relaxed elephants
 - General game is relaxed and easy to photograph
 - Beautiful plains area interspersed with rocky kopjes

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- Beautiful sandstone rock formations on the Limpopo River – excellent for landscape photography
- Mamagwa Baobab perched precariously on the edge of a rocky hill
- Viewing is generally open and clear allowing for easy photography
- Large Baobabs and Mashatu trees dominate the skyline providing excellent photographic subjects



DAY 19

Day 19 brings us to the end of our amazing adventure. After our morning game drive we will be driven to the Limpopo airstrip where our chartered flight will return us to Johannesburg for our flights home

