

Trails of Africa Tours and Safaris

Botswana Travel Guide and General Information

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Time in Botswana

Botswana is always two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+2); it doesn't operate daylight saving time, so there's no time difference between winter and summer months in Botswana.

Currency in Botswana

The pula (BWP) is Botswana's currency. Travelers' cheques and foreign currency can be exchanged at banks, although most camps here will take VISA and MasterCard credit cards, as well as US Dollars, Pounds, Euros and SA Rands. For latest exchange rate with major world currencies, kindly check with your bank or check with www.oanda.com.

Botswana's International Dialing Code

The International Dialing Code for Botswana is +267, followed by the city area code (e.g. (0)62 for Kasane, or (0)68 for Maun) and local number. Calling from Botswana, you need to dial 00 and the relevant country code (e.g. +44 for the UK, or +1 for the USA).

Food in Botswana

Botswana's safari camps provide very high-quality food and drink – most serve international-style cuisine, alongside the local lager St. Louis, imported beers (Amstel or Windhoek), wines and spirits. In Botswana's villages and towns, meats, particularly beef and goat, are very popular.

Health in Botswana

Botswana is generally a healthy country to visit. Several vaccines are sensible (typhoid, polio and tetanus), though none are required. Anti-malarial tablets are usually recommended. Always check the latest recommendations with your doctor before travelling.

Language in Botswana

English is the official language of Botswana and widely spoken, although Setswana (also called 'Tswana') is spoken by almost everybody. Mother tongues include Birwa, Herero and Kagalagadi (languages of the Bantu family), Nama, Ganadi and Shua (languages of the Khoisan family), as well as Afrikaans of the European family.

Visas for Botswana

Travellers with British passports, as well as US citizens, do not need a visa when travelling to Botswana. For more visa information, see the Botswana Tourism Board site.

Weather and climate in Botswana

Botswana's weather and climate is typical for southern Africa, although it gets less rainfall than the countries further east.

Wild animals in Botswana

Most of Botswana's camps and campsites are unfenced. You must take great care with wild animals; they can all be dangerous.

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