

Wilderness Dawning Safaris



WILDERNESS DAWNING SAFARIS

Pre-Departure Information

Wilderness Dawning WhatsApp (+267) 7179 1225

Craig Nesbitt WhatsApp (27) 84 805 4459 & (267) 73 893 671

www.wildernessdawning.com | res2@wildernessdawning.com

Pre-Departure Camping Information

We look forward to travelling with you. To ensure that you have the best possible experience, we ask that you read the following information. Should you have any questions regarding any of the points raised here please contact us.

Suggested clothing and equipment:

We recommend that you take comfortable, casual, wash and wear clothing. White and bright colours should be avoided. Please take soft bags as these are easier for packing in the vehicles and aircraft.

If you will be travelling by light aircraft at any time during your safari, there is a luggage weight restriction of 20kg's per person (This includes hand luggage). If you have more than the limited amount, then please ensure that you book an extra seat for this (at an extra fee) or you contact us to make another arrangement.

Please note that in Victoria Falls, certain up market hotels do have a dress code for dinner. Track shoes and T-shirts cannot be worn in the casinos.

Good quality sunglasses

Sun hat

Warm hat in winter months (June – August)

5 T-shirts

3 pairs of shorts

2 pairs of jeans / trousers

1 tracksuit

1 sweater

1 warm jacket

Underwear and socks

1 pair of good walking shoes

1 pair of sandals

Swimming costume

Camera

Binoculars – although we have close encounters with animals, many of our sightings are at a distance in order not to disturb the animals in certain situations therefore, a good pair of binoculars is essential.

A good torch / flashlight

Extra batteries – for torches, cameras, video, shavers etc

If you wear contact lenses, we recommend that you bring a pair of glasses in case of irritation from the dust.

Prescription medication

Sun block and lip salve

Basic medicines – aspirin, Imodium, antihistamine, antiseptic, eye drops

Tissues, wet wipes

Plastic bag for dirty clothes

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Visas, tickets, passport, money, etc

Laundry:

While camping there is no laundry facility. We camp in a natural, wild setting, where there are no amenities. Should you wish to do some personal laundry, please ask your helpful camp staff to assist you with a bucket, some water; and soap powder.

Meals and beverages:

Meals:

Breakfast is usually a light meal, as the cool early morning hours have to be fully utilised for game viewing.

Included in a typical breakfast is the following – tea, coffee, toast, bread & jam and cereals.

Lunch while camping is in the form of a hearty brunch including – cottage pie, sausages, eggs, bacon, cheeses, cold meats, breads and salads.

Dinner is cooked over an open fire and includes a main course, a variety of vegetables, as well as dessert, tea and coffee (on request).

Drinks:

Local beverages (Beers and wine and non-alcoholic beverages as well as bottled water) are included in the tour price, however a wide selection of well-known brands of Spirits and non-local drinks are available in Botswana.

The guide takes beer, wine, soft- drinks and mineral water on the safari. Should you wish to have “spirits” or any other specialty item, then we suggest a pre-order.

Water is essential. It is important that one drinks plenty of water during the warmer months. We supply filtered drinking water (included), as people from different countries may not be used to our type of water or like the “taste”.

Campsites:

All campsites are HATAB wilderness sites (unless otherwise stated). These campsites have no amenities (these are set up by the camp staff); no fences; and are in the wilderness areas which ensures our guests of exclusivity in the National Parks.

Whilst in these campsites, the groups camping on those particular days are solely from our Company. These groups are never more than 2 per campsite.

Example of daily schedule:

Times may vary between individual guides and seasons, however the basic structure of the schedule remains the same.

Wake up call 05h30
Light breakfast 06h00
Game drive 06h30
Tea break 09h30
Brunch 11h30
Siesta 12h30 – 15h30
Tea 15h30
Game drive 16h00 – 19h00
Dinner 20h00

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Tents and camping equipment:

Tents are 4 x 3 Meru tents manufactured from durable D250 rip stop canvas. All tents have sown in ground sheets as well as mosquito proofing. They have roof ventilation and large windows, which allow for maximum air movement.

Guests are expected to bring their own torch / flashlight.

Shower tent and toilet tents are set up behind each tent. The showers are bucket showers and the toilets are portable toilets.

Tents contain camp cot, mattress, fitted sheet, duvet, blanket, pillow and pillowcase.

Batteries:

Batteries can be recharged as follows:

Maun/Vic Falls: 220V Power source, universal plug adaptor required. Plugs outlets vary from round and square 3 pin to round and square 2 pin.

On safari: 12V Power from vehicle battery. Cigarette lighter adaptor or crocodile clamps directly to battery. It is always advisable to bring extra batteries.

Vehicles:

Vehicles used on safari are time tested Land Cruisers that have been customized to our specifications. The Land Cruiser has both height and comfort and allows for a vehicle with maximum game viewing potential. Each vehicle carries a maximum of ten passengers in individual bucket seats. The passenger and driver compartments are connected, which allows for communication between the guide and his guests.

Furthermore, the roof has a removable canvas top and combined with the large open sides offers the guests unparalleled viewing. The sides and roof have canvas covers.

Malaria and vaccinations:

Vaccination requirements change from time to time. Please consult your doctor or health care centre for up-to-date advice.

Malaria including plasmodium falciparum exists in certain areas of Botswana and a course of anti-malaria tablets must be commenced prior to departure.

Malaria is most active after the rainy season from mid January to April. Please consult your doctor or pharmacist for up-to-date advice on what drugs to take.

Money:

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When entering Botswana or Zimbabwe, you will be required to declare all foreign currency in any form. As certain African currencies are difficult to change outside of their country of origin, it is advisable to only change money as you need it.

All international airports have foreign exchange .

ATM's are available although it is advisable to carry small denominations of cash with you.

Tipping:

Tipping is a cultural norm in Botswana. Tipping is directly linked to service provided and is not a requirement. We suggest a guideline of approximately US\$5-10 per day, however, this is entirely at the guests own discretion.

Insurance:

Wilderness Dawning cannot be held responsible or liable for loss, damage or theft of personal luggage and belongings, nor can they be held responsible for personal injury, accident, or illness.

Travel insurance is compulsory on all Wilderness Dawning Safaris'.

Please make sure that you obtain a policy to cover you for all medical, baggage and cancellation fees as well as repatriation for the duration of your journey.

Maun Airport Procedures:

If you fly into Maun Airport, a representative from the Charter Company will meet you and assist you onto your flight to Moremi Game Reserve.

Should you be in Maun prior to your departure, you will be transferred by the hotel to the Charter Company's office. Here, arrangements will be made for you and your luggage to be taken across to the airport.

Visas:

Please always check with your local High Commission or Travel Agent in relation to your country's specific needs, as requirements may change from time to time.

Temperatures:

The dry winter months from May to September range from COLD at night and early morning to warm/hot during the day

Minimum temp 32°F / 0°C

Maximum temp 85°F / 30°C

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The summer months are from October to April. Rains generally start in November and carry on through to the end of March. Rains usually occur in the form of afternoon thundershowers. Humidity is generally low.

Minimum temps 50* F / 10*C

Maximum temp 100* F / 38*C

Driving conditions:

The roads are rough and bumpy. The roads in Botswana's National Parks are not tarred and all are sandy and potholed to various degrees.

During the wetter months the driving conditions are a little more difficult, but our guides and vehicles are designed to handle these conditions.

Respecting Wildlife:

- Your guide will give you a briefing on the general behavior and safety aspects while on safari.
- When observing animals, do so silently with a minimum of disturbance to their natural activities. Loud talking or noises on game drives will chase the animals away.
- Never attempt to attract an animal's attention. Do not imitate animal sounds, clap your hands, pound the vehicle or throw objects out of the vehicle.
- Please respect your guide's judgment when it comes to the proximity to the animals.
- Do not insist that he take you closer so that you can get a better photograph. A vehicle driven too close can hinder a hunt or cause an animal to abandon a hard-earned meal.
- Do not throw anything out of the vehicle, even fruit pips or other food items. Never attempt to feed or approach any wild animal.
- Smoking during game drives is not permitted.