

# BOTSWANA

Botswana is one of the world's undiscovered treasures. Besides being a peaceful democracy with a growing economy and a stable currency, this huge, arid and sparsely populated country boasts many spectacular national parks as well as the pristine Okavango Delta, one of Africa's unspoiled wildernesses. Entrance fees are high, so tourist numbers are low, but visitors are assured of a memorable game-viewing experience. Most visitors enter the country via the capital, Gaborone, or Maun, at the foot of the Delta.

## Getting there/around

### By Air

The gateway to Botswana is via *Johannesburg International Airport*. From there *Air Botswana* (011 447 6078 or 09 267 352 812), *South African Airways* (011 978 1111/1000) and *British Airways* (011 880 9285) link Botswana with the rest of the world. *Air Botswana* flies to and from the main tourist centres within the country. The modern *Sir Seretse Khama International Airport* is situated 15 kms from Gaborone.

### By Train

*Spoornet* (086 000 8888 for reservations) runs a weekly service between Johannesburg and Gaborone.

### By Road

Botswana is linked by tarred road to South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe. Vehicles for rental including 4x4s are readily available.

## TOP ATTRACTIONS

- The **Okavango Delta** and **Moremi Game Reserve** – the largest inland delta in the world and home to a huge wildlife population, best viewed from a mokoro (or dugout canoe).
- The **Central Kalahari Game Reserve**, part of the Greater Kalahari Desert – huge, harsh and remote, but teeming with game, especially around the pans.
- **Chobe National Park** – home to vast animal herds, particularly elephant. Viewing is best along the Chobe River and in the Savuti region.
- **Makgadigadi National Park** – vast lunar-like salt pan covered with grasses that are especially attractive to antelope and birds. Accessible only by 4 wheel drive vehicles.
- **Gemsbok National Park**, part of the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park – may be entered from South Africa or Botswana. The park has huge numbers of large antelope, including gemsbok and eland, as well as many lion and cheetah.

### By Bus

*Intercape* (012 654 4114) runs a daily service from Johannesburg via Pretoria and Rustenberg to Gaborone. Mini Buses leave Gaborone for Mafikeng and Johannesburg every day. Buses also between the major towns within Botswana.

### Useful numbers

Botswana Tourism (09 267 353 024/31 3314)  
website: [botswanaturism-gov.bw](http://botswanaturism-gov.bw)

Botswana Parks and Reserves Reservations  
(09 267 318 0774)

Budget Car Rental (Gaborone) (09 267 390 2030)

# MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique is now opening up to the world. Its 2700 km of coastline offers dazzling beaches fringed by lagoons, coral reefs and small islands. A tropical climate, warm sea and plentiful seafood make the country a magnet for tourists. Sands, forests, savannahs and mountains make for a varied terrain, while the mix of African, Portuguese and Arab cultures gives Mozambique a distinctive ambience.

## Best time to go

The best time to go is in the cooler months from May to September. Anti malarial precautions are necessary throughout the year.

## Getting there/around

### By Air

Main access to Mozambique is via Johannesburg and Harare to the capital **Maputo**, through LAM Mozambique Airlines, Air Portugal (TAP) and South African Airlines (SAA). Other international airports are at Beira, Nampula and Pemba. Regional Airlines fly to Vilanculos, Inhambane and other resorts.

### By Train

Spoornet (086 000 8888) runs a daily service to Komatipoort on the SA/Mozambique border. Minibus taxis complete the 120km journey to Maputo.

## Useful Numbers

Mozambique Connection (011 803 4185)

Mozambique Guides

[www.mozguide.com](http://www.mozguide.com); [www.retosa.co.za](http://www.retosa.co.za)

### By Bus

Greyhound and Intercape Mainliner run services between Johannesburg and Maputo, and between Durban and Maputo via Swaziland. Minibus taxis offer a cheaper but more crowded alternative.

### By Road

Mozambique is linked by the new Maputo Corridor to Johannesburg. The main road to the north of Maputo is in reasonable condition. Car hire is available in Maputo and Beira. Buses operate between the main towns.

## TOP ATTRACTIONS

- **The Bazaruto Archipelago** – the beautiful islands of Banque, Bazaruto, Benguerra, Margaruke and Paradise – offer exceptional swimming, diving, fishing and bird-watching.
- **Mozambique Island** – a World Heritage Site, located near Nampula, has old forts, temples and other historic buildings dating back to the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.
- **Inhaca Island** – in Maputo Bay, is noted for its water sport activities and diverse birdlife, including flamingoes and pelicans.
- **Inhambane** and **Vilanculos** are two especially popular resorts along the long coastline, whose many pristine beaches and coral reefs provide matchless opportunities for swimming, snorkeling, scuba-diving, fishing and bird watching
- **Lake Niassa** (aka Lake Malawi), in the north-west – is the third largest lake in Africa and a bio-diversity hotspot.

# NAMIBIA

Abundant sunshine, unconfined space, a brooding landscape of sand, dunes, bushveld and mountains, and plentiful wildlife make Namibia an exceptional tourist destination. The sparsely populated country derives its name from the huge, desolate and haunting Namib Desert and contains no fewer than 26 parks and reserves. Most tourists enter Namibia via the capital, Windhoek.

## Getting there/around

### By Air

Windhoek is connected by air to Cape Town, Johannesburg, London and Frankfurt. *Air Namibia* (09 264 299 6000) or (011 390 2877), *British Airways/Comair* (09 264 61 248 528) or (011 921 0222) and *South African Airways* (09 264 61 273 340) or (011 978 1111) fly to Johannesburg and Cape Town.

### By Bus

*Intercape Mainliner* (09 264 61 227 847) runs to Cape Town, Upington and Johannesburg.

### By Road

There are various entry points into Namibia from South Africa. Within Namibia, you'd be best advised to hire a car or four-wheel drive from the main centres or at Windhoek airport, or take one of the many tours on offer.

**Please note:** Daylight saving from April to September – one hour behind South African time.

## TOP ATTRACTIONS

- **Etosha National Park** – one of Africa's premier reserves, almost 5000 sq kms in size and mostly dry, with exceptional game viewing concentrated around the Pan and the main waterholes. Accommodation at Namutoni and Okaukuejo camps.
- **Namib-Naukluft Park** – a huge desert area containing such sights as the world's largest sand dunes at Soussusvlei, the Sesriem Canyon, the lunar-like landscape along the Welwitschia Drive, and the Naukluft Mountains with their steep gorges and sandstone cliffs.
- **The Fish River Canyon** – the second largest in the world, surpassed only by the Grand Canyon. Popular hiking destination.
- **Swakopmund** – an oasis of German culture and a popular tourist destination with plenty of outdoor activities.
- **The Skeleton Coast Park** – a long, desolate, eerily beautiful coastline and a graveyard for shipping.
- **Kaokoland** – arid and remote, among the world's last great wilderness areas.
- **The Waterberg Plateau Park** – high in the mountains, a sanctuary for rare and endangered species of game.
- **The Erongo Mountains** – fascinating volcanic rock formations in the Omaruru district.

## Useful numbers

**Namibia Tourism Board**

(09 264 61 290 6000/011 327 1006)

**Windhoek Information and Publicity**

(09 264 61 290 2058)

**Namibia Wildlife Resorts (for park bookings)**

(09 264 61 236 975)

**Ground Rush Adventures**

(09 264 081 124 5167)

**Trip Travel (09 264 61 285 5700)**

**Nacobta Booking & Information Office – for  
community enterprise tours, itineraries**

(09 264 61 255977)

**Budget Car Rental (Windhoek)**

(09264 61 228 720)

**[www.namibiaturism.com.na](http://www.namibiaturism.com.na)**



GEMSBOK, ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

The image features a promotional graphic for the South African Travel Guide. On the left, the title "South African TRAVEL Guide" is displayed in a stylized font, with a South African flag and a green map of South Africa below it. On the right, a 3D-rendered cover of the "South African TRAVEL Guide 2007-2008" is shown. The cover includes various scenic and wildlife images, a quote "What to see and do and where to go", and the Travel Channel logo. Below the cover, the text "NOW DISTRIBUTED INTERNATIONALLY" and the website "www.satravelguide.com" are printed in white on a blue background.