

EPIC EXPERIENCES

BEST OF BOTSWANA'S BIRDING

A TAILORMADE SAFARI EXPERIENCE

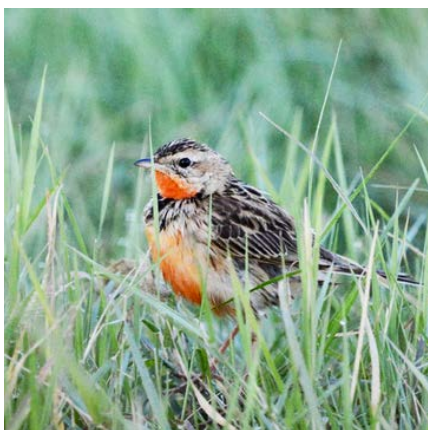
HOSTED BY A SPECIALIST BIRD GUIDE

11-NIGHT EXPERIENCE





From December to March every year, Botswana's migratory birds arrive en masse. Together with your expert birding guide, you'll travel through Botswana's great floodplains of Chobe and into the miombo & mopane woodlands of the hinterland areas. We'll travel across the Okavango wetlands for wading species and the aquatic birds of the Panhandle region of the delta, and finish in the outskirts of the Kalahari & Makgadikgadi. This itinerary promises to deliver not just the best opportunity for spotting the key species of the region but also stunning scenery and some of Botswana's most spectacular game-viewing.



PACKAGE HIGHLIGHTS

4 Days at Chobe Game Lodge: Move between the Chobe floodplains and teak forests for sightings of Rosy-throated Longclaw, Schalow's Turaco, Racket-tailed Rollers, Stierling's Wren-Warblers, African Cuckoo Hawks, White-crowned Lapwings, and seasonal migrants like Debham's Bustard, Crowned Crane, and Black Coucals.

3 Days at Savute Safari Lodge: Game drives exploring various birding environments, with sightings of Carmine Bee-eaters riding on the back of Kori Bustards, raptors, pratincoles, and seedeaters. The lodge's permanent waterhole attracts thousands of pratincoles at certain times of the season.

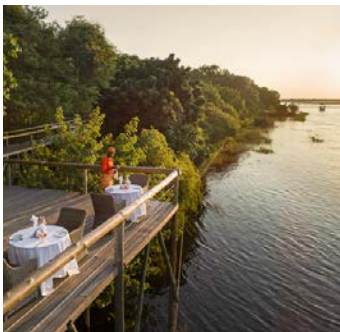
4 Days at Nxamaseri Island Lodge: Nature walks on the Okavango Delta islands, boat trips, and an optional night at the Tsodilo Hills Sleep-Out camp. This region within the Okavango is a prime location for sightings of African Skimmers, waders, warblers, Wattled Cranes, Pel's Fishing Owls, and all Botswana kingfisher and bee-eater species.

4 Days at Leroo La Tau: Explore the dry Boteti Riverbed and arid regions of Nxai Pans for sightings of korhaans, bustards, larks, pipits, migratory zebra and wildebeest, vultures, insectivorous species, sandgrouse, and francolins. The lodge's bird hide offers perfect late-afternoon birding from the edge of the Boteti. Private activities are included in this itinerary, and per-person rates vary depending on the number of guests booked.

NOTE: The itinerary includes a specialist birding host & private activities to ensure the ultimate experience for birders and the best sightings. The length of itinerary and regions chosen can be tailor-made according to the travellers preferences.



This trip includes a highly experienced birdwatcher host who has intimate knowledge of the local region and where to go to have the highest chance of sighting the key species. This itinerary is also designed for birders who are not just coming to tick off key species but to maximise time on their safari witnessing unique birding behaviour and enjoying time with the special birds at this time of year. Our handpicked professional birding guides promise to adapt to the preferences of each group and ensure you enjoy time away from other travellers, surrounded only by epic bird sightings.



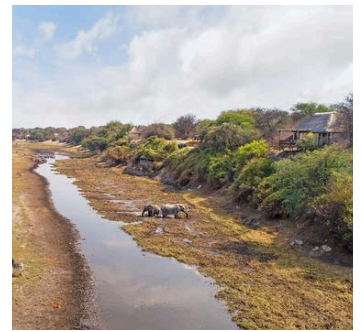
Chobe Game Lodge



Savute Safari Lodge



Nxamaseri Island Lodge



Leroo La Tau

Starting at **Chobe Game Lodge** for four days, this unique lodge is the only permanent property on the Chobe River that is located within the Chobe National Park. This presents a whole host of advantages, allowing you to get out at first light to the floodplains and shorelines for sightings as well as staying out as late as possible rather than departing the park gates. Chobe's sightings are incredible for a range of forest birds, waders, and floodplain species. Special sightings include Schalow's Turaco and Racket-tailed Rollers.

From Chobe Game Lodge, we head into the Savute region at **Savute Safari Lodge** for three days of game drives and wonderful sightings of Carmine Bee-eaters swooping along the side of the vehicles and elephant herds. Habitats include the Savute Marsh, arid-mopane woodlands, riverbeds, and rocky outcrops.

The next four days will be spent in the Okavango Panhandle at **Nxamaseri Island Lodge**, which has regular sightings of Pel's Fishing Owls, African Skimmers, Lesser Jacana, and White-backed Night-herons. The region is also renowned for large numbers of bee-eaters, kingfishers, and many of the migratory cuckoos.

The trip will finish at **Leroo La Tau** for four days exploring the prolific Kalahari species from bustards and korhaans to Arnot's Chats and a number of pipits and larks in a variety of grassland habitats.



ITINERARY

GUESTS SHOULD ARRIVE AT KASANE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

Transfers can be arranged for an additional cost from Victoria Falls or Livingstone.

DAY 1 - 4: CHOBE GAME LODGE - CHOBE RIVERFRONT

You will spend three days moving between the well-renowned Chobe floodplains for sightings of Rosy-throated Longclaw and the possibility of seasonal migrants such as the Denham's Bustard, Crowned Crane, and Black Coucals. The trip will also venture inland to the teak forests in search of Racket-tailed Rollers, Stierling's Wren-Warblers, Brown Firefinch African Cuckoo Hawks. The lodge also enjoys frequent sightings of the Schalow's Turaco and plenty of White-crowned Lapwings along the Chobe River's edge.

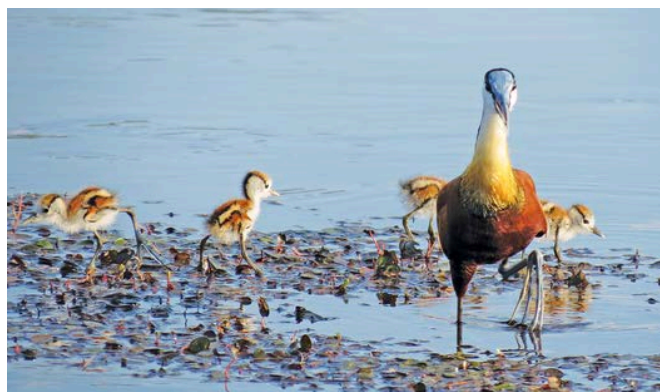
Depending on sightings in the park, there will be an opportunity to spend time on the outskirts of Chobe National Park, picking up the Collared Palm-Thrush, Rock Pratincoles, and occasional Bat Hawk sightings.

OUR FAVOURITE BIRDING EXPERIENCE:
Watching Broad-billed-Rollers hunting flying-ants from the Chobe Game Lodge boardwalk at dusk.

DAY 4 - 6: SAVUTE SAFARI LODGE - SAVUTE REGION

Wake up to sunrise tea/coffee and explore the moon-like landscape before a light breakfast. The Birding from Savute will be done on game-drive vehicles exploring the range of birding environments. Carmine Bee-eaters are frequently observed riding on the back of Kori Bustards moving through the Savute Marsh. The region hosts a range of unique habitats. Here we'll be on the lookout for a host of raptors, pratincoles, and seedeaters. The Savute region also offers wonderful birdwatching from the lodge itself, with the permanent waterhole attracting thousands of pratincoles at certain times of the season.

OUR FAVOURITE BIRDING EXPERIENCE:
Thousands of Black-winged and Collard Pratincoles congregate along the seasonal pans and waterholes. A site to behold as they care for their nests and hunt in the air.





DAY 6 - 9: NXAMASERI ISLAND LODGE - OKAVANGO PANHANDLE

After arriving at Nxamaseri, we'll invite you to head on nature walks on the islands and go out on a boat to find the birds of the region. There will also be an opportunity for those who would like to spend a night out at Tsodilo Hills sleep-out camp. This is included at no extra charge, and as well as discovering the ancient Bushman rock paintings here, we can drive across unique Kalahari terrain and walk through the hills and arid vegetation for some species endemic to this area, such as the Bradfield's Hornbill.

Nxamaseri Island Lodge is also in a prime location to make the most of exposed sandbanks hosting large flocks of African Skimmers and hundreds of waders. Papyrus-lined channels, floodplains, and islands full of thick forests present perfect habitats for special birds of the Okavango region, such as Greater Swamp Warbler, Coppery-tailed Coucal, Chirping & Lapula Cisticola, Wattled Cranes, Pel's Fishing Owl, and all the Botswana kingfisher species.

OUR FAVOURITE BIRDING EXPERIENCE:

It has to be the sightings we get with the elusive Pels-fishing Owl. Such an impressive bird and so special to see it in its prime habitat.

DAY 9 - 12: LEROO LA TAU - MAKGADIKGADI & NXAI PANS NATIONAL PARK

The trip finishes at Leroo La Tau, which allows for time along the dry Boteti riverbed for seasonal waders that follow the rainwater collecting in the riverbed and time out in the arid regions of Nxai Pans. As well as seeing a number of korhaans, bustards, larks, and pipits, the transformation of the parched Kalahari into lush grasslands attracts thousands of migratory zebra and wildebeest. This brings the opportunity for many vulture sightings at kills, a range of insectivorous species following the migration, and gorgeous pans and waterholes attracting sandgrouse and francolins in vast numbers. The lodge also hosts a wonderful bird hide inside the property, perfect for late-afternoon birding from the edge of the Boteti.

OUR FAVOURITE BIRDING EXPERIENCE:

Spending time at the waterholes in-land watching hundreds of Burchell's & Double-banded Sandgrouse flocking to collect water and travel back miles and miles to their young.

DAY 12:

The trip finishes at Maun International Airport for onward travel.

MEET YOUR SPECIALIST BIRDING HOST:

NICK BUYS

Nick Buys grew up surrounded by Africa's wildlife, fostering a deep passion for birds from an early age. With extensive experience birding in Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe and regions across Southern Africa, Nick has become an expert on the region's birdlife, boasting a life list of 4,000 bird species from around the world.

Whether helping serious birders track target species or leading relaxed birdwatching adventures, Nick's keen spotting skills ensure you won't miss a sighting. Beyond guiding, he also works as a conservation veterinarian, dedicated to endangered species like the desert-adapted lions of Africa's Skeleton Coast.

Nick's passion for the African bush guarantees a birding tour with him will be unforgettable.



What to know?

- We have access to a range of birding guides to suit the levels should the availability of our specialist host be limited.
- Small groups are welcome, and reduced group rates apply.
- Prime birding time December - March (other seasons available but bird sighting might vary).
- The itinerary can be customised according to the preferred length of trip and budget as well as sighting preferences.



[VIEW PACKAGE RATES](#)