







Embark on a breathtaking adventure with Ahnasa, an extraordinary travel company founded by the dynamic mother-daughter duo, Pana and Phera. We are a passionate team of women guiding you through the heart of Africa, weaving together an enchanting tapestry of experiences that will linger in your soul forever.

At Ahnasa, we are not just curators of travel; we are architects of unforgettable moments. Our mission, fueled by the spirit of empowerment, is to craft transformative journeys that resonate with the heartbeat of Africa. We invite you to dance with the rhythm of the continent, savor the vibrant colors of Africa's landscapes, and immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of amazing cultures.

As a women's run company, Ahnasa is not just a travel experience; it's a celebration of strength, passion and connection. Let us guide you through the hidden gems and untold stories of Africa, ensuring that every step you take, every sight you behold, and every breath you inhale becomes a part of the intricate mosaic of memories etched in your hearts and minds.

At Ahnasa, we promise more than a journey; it's an exhilarating odyssey that transcends the ordinary. Let the magic of Africa unfold before you as we create moments that will last a lifetime.

Ahnasa - where passion meets adventure, and every heartbeat echoes the romance of the African soul.

The Ahnasa Team

KALPANA

"I am a passionate traveler, love animals, the wild, and the beach, crazy mum to two grown-up children and 8 dogs, and lover of all things red!"

It was a dream come true when Phera and I established Ahnasa Destinations. I now get to show others the beauty that Africa has to offer.

PHERA

"I belong in the wild with my camera, a book, and a nice cold G&T! It's my comfort zone"

Every safari out in the bush is always a new experience. There is always something new, no two safaris are ever the same. The excitement, thrill, peace tranquillity, and every other emotion I feel when I'm out on safari is the feeling I

wish for everyone to experience.

SARA

“I’m an animal lover with a desire to save them all. It’s my dream to become a wildlife conservation photographer.” Nature has always been a huge part of my life and living in a country rich in opportunities to be in nature, I was in heaven. Every chance I got, I would head out of Nairobi and go on a safari in the Mara, go hiking through Hell’s Gate, or boating on Lake Naivasha. The possibilities are endless.

Why Visit Botswana?

Botswana, a jewel in Southern Africa, beckons adventurous travelers with its pristine landscapes, abundant wildlife, and commitment to conservation. This landlocked country, bordered by Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and South Africa, is a haven for those seeking an unparalleled safari experience. From the sprawling sands of the Kalahari Desert to the lush, vibrant Okavango Delta, Botswana offers a diverse range of environments that promise unforgettable encounters with nature.
Botswana's commitment to sustainable tourism ensures that its natural wonders remain unspoiled.
This means that as a visitor, you can enjoy a safari that is both awe-inspiring and eco-friendly, knowing that your presence supports ongoing conservation efforts.
Beyond the safaris, Botswana's rich cultural heritage adds depth to any visit. The Tswana people, known for their warm hospitality, offer a glimpse into traditional African life. Visiting local villages, partaking in traditional music and dance, and exploring the history and customs of the people enhance the overall experience, making a trip to Botswana not just a journey through nature, but a cultural odyssey as well.

Animals of Botswana

Weather and When to Go

November to March (Rainy Season)
Weather: This period is characterized by hot temperatures and significant rainfall. Temperatures often range from 25°C to 35°C (77°F to 95°F), with occasional peaks above 40°C (104°F). Thunderstorms are common, particularly in the afternoon and evening.
Pros: The landscape becomes lush and green, and the influx of water transforms the scenery. This is an excellent time for birdwatching as migratory birds arrive, and many animals give birth. Better rates at camps and lodges.
Cons: Wildlife can be more challenging to spot due to the dense vegetation, and some areas might be less accessible due to muddy roads.

April to May
Weather: Temperatures begin to cool, and rainfall decreases. Daytime temperatures range from 20°C to 30°C (68°F to 86°F).

Pros: This transitional period offers pleasant weather and the start of good game viewing as animals begin to congregate around remaining water sources.

June to August
This season is characterized by dry and cool conditions. Daytime temperatures range from 20°C to 25°C (68°F to 77°F), while nighttime temperatures can drop significantly, sometimes reaching near freezing.
Pros: The best time for game viewing as the dry conditions force animals to gather around waterholes, making them easier to spot. The lack of rain means fewer mosquitoes and a reduced risk of malaria.
Cons: Nights and early mornings can be quite cold, so warm clothing is necessary.

September to October
Weather: Temperatures start to rise, leading into the hot and dry conditions before the rains begin. Daytime temperatures can range from 25°C to 35°C (77°F to 95°F), sometimes higher.
Pros: Excellent for game viewing as the dry conditions persist. Water sources dwindle, concentrating wildlife and making sightings more frequent and predictable.
Cons: Increasing heat can be intense, especially in October.

The best time to visit Botswana largely depends on what you want to experience:
Wildlife Viewing: The dry season from June to October is generally considered the best time for game viewing. Animals are easier to spot as they gather around water sources, and the vegetation is less dense.
Birdwatching and Lush Scenery: The rainy season from November to March is ideal for birdwatchers and those who enjoy seeing Botswana's landscapes at their most vibrant. However, wildlife viewing can be more challenging.
Comfortable Temperatures: The shoulder seasons (April-May and June - August) offer a balance between comfortable temperatures and good wildlife viewing opportunities.

Some of Botswana's Parks and Reserves

Botswana is renowned for its commitment to wildlife conservation, with approximately 38% of its land area dedicated to national parks, game reserves, and wildlife management areas. The country boasts a network of parks and reserves that provide sanctuary to a diverse range of flora and fauna. There are around 10 major national parks and game reserves, each offering unique landscapes and wildlife experiences.

Chobe National Park

Chobe National Park, located in northern Botswana, is renowned for its remarkable elephant population, which is one of the largest in the world. The park features diverse ecosystems, including lush floodplains, dense woodlands, and the Chobe Riverfront, making it a prime location for wildlife viewing. Visitors to Chobe can experience spectacular sightings of not only elephants but also lions, buffalo, hippos, and a rich variety of bird species. Chobe National Park covers an area of approximately 11,700 square kilometers (4,517 square miles).

Okavango Delta

The Okavango Delta, located in northern Botswana, is one of the world's largest inland deltas, spanning approximately 15,000 square kilometers (5,800 square miles) during peak floods. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is best known for its unique ecosystem, where the Okavango River fans out into a maze of channels, lagoons, and islands in the middle of the Kalahari Desert. The delta supports a rich biodiversity, including iconic wildlife such as elephants, lions, leopards, buffalo, and a plethora of bird species, making it a premier destination for safari and eco-tourism.

Central Kalahari Game Reserve

The Central Kalahari Game Reserve, located in the heart of Botswana, is one of the largest protected areas in Africa, covering approximately 52,800 square kilometers (20,380 square miles). Known for its vast and remote wilderness, it features expansive semi-arid landscapes, including sand dunes, grasslands, and salt pans. The reserve is famous for its unique wildlife adapted to the harsh conditions, including the black-maned Kalahari lions, cheetahs, meerkats, and large herds of gemsbok and springbok.

Nxai Pan National Park

Nxai Pan National Park, located in northeastern Botswana, covers an area of approximately 2,578 square kilometers (996 square miles). The park is best known for its large, open grasslands and the iconic Nxai Pan, a fossil lakebed that transforms into a lush, green landscape during the rainy season. This park is famous for the annual zebra and wildebeest migrations, as well as its population of giraffes, elephants, and predators such as lions and cheetahs. Additionally, Nxai Pan is home to the picturesque Baines' Baobabs, a group of ancient baobab trees that are a popular attraction for visitors.

Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

Situated in northeastern Botswana, encompasses an area of approximately 3,900 square kilometers (1,505 square miles). The park is best known for its expansive salt pans, which are among the largest in the world. During the wet season, the pans fill with water, attracting thousands of flamingos and other migratory birds, as well as large herds of zebra and wildebeest. The unique, stark landscape of the dry season offers a striking contrast and an otherworldly experience for visitors, highlighting the dramatic seasonal changes in this fascinating ecosystem.

Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park

Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, spanning both Botswana and South Africa, covers an immense area of approximately 38,000 square kilometers (14,670 square miles), with about 28,400 square kilometers (10,970 square miles) on the Botswana side. The park is renowned for its striking red sand dunes, vast semi-desert landscapes, and unique flora and fauna. It is particularly famous for its black-maned Kalahari lions, large populations of gemsbok, springbok, and wildebeest, as well as excellent opportunities for spotting cheetahs and birds of prey. The park's remote and rugged environment offers a true wilderness experience, attracting visitors seeking adventure and solitude in one of Africa's most pristine and less-visited conservation areas.

Some of our Favorite Experiences

Bush Walk Safaris
A walking safari in Botswana's parks is an extraordinary way to intimately connect with the untamed wilderness. Accompanied by knowledgeable local tribal guides and rangers, visitors can step off the beaten path and explore the savannah on foot, immersing themselves in the sights, sounds, and scents of this remarkable ecosystem.

Go Fishing
Fishing in the Okavango Delta offers a serene and thrilling experience, where you can catch species like tiger fish and bream amidst a stunning backdrop of lush wetlands and diverse wildlife. The Chobe River provides another excellent fishing spot, renowned for its abundant tiger fish, known for their fierce fight and making for an exciting angling adventure. Both locations combine world-class fishing with breathtaking natural beauty, ensuring a memorable and rewarding experience for any angler.

Boat or Canoe / Mokoro Safari
A boat or canoe/Mokoro safari in the Okavango Delta offers an intimate and serene way to explore the labyrinth of waterways, where you can glide past elephants, hippos, and a plethora of bird species in their natural habitat. On the Chobe River, a boat safari provides a front-row seat to Africa's spectacular wildlife, with opportunities to observe large herds of elephants and other game coming to the water's edge. Both experiences immerse you in Botswana's stunning landscapes and rich biodiversity, creating unforgettable moments in one of the world's most pristine environments.

Horse Back Safari As you traverse the untamed wilderness on your trusty steed, you'll forge a unique connection with both the horses and the environment, immersing yourself in the sights, sounds, and rhythms of the wild. The rhythmic clip-clop of hooves resonates with the earth beneath, allowing you to approach wildlife discreetly and witness animals in their natural habitats.

Helicopter ride
Take your safari to new heights and explore Botswana's remote destinations in an unparalleled journey of discovery. Soar through the skies, witnessing extraordinary scenery, the natural wonders, and the abundance of wildlife from an entirely new perspective. Fly across some of the wildest, most spectacular, and extreme locations- places inaccessible by land and untouched by humans.

Quad bike riding through the Desert
Embarking on a quad bike adventure in the Makgadikgadi Pans offers an exhilarating way to explore one of Botswana's most unique landscapes, with its vast, dazzling white salt flats and ancient baobab trees. The feeling of freedom as you speed across the boundless terrain is unparalleled, and the opportunity to camp under a starlit sky provides a breathtaking celestial display. This adventure combines adrenaline, stunning scenery, and a chance to immerse yourself in the serene beauty of one of the world's largest salt flats.

Off the Beaten Path Experiences

See the Flamingo Migration in the Makgadikgadi Pans
The flamingo migration in Botswana is a spectacular natural event that draws nature enthusiasts and bird watchers from around the world. This phenomenon primarily occurs in the Makgadikgadi Pans, one of the largest salt flats on Earth, located in the northeastern part of the country. These vast, desolate pans transform into a vibrant hub of life during the rainy season, typically between November and April. As the rains fill the pans with shallow, nutrient-rich water, they create an ideal breeding ground for flamingos. Two main species of flamingos migrate to the Makgadikgadi Pans: the greater flamingo and the lesser flamingo. The influx of water and food triggers a massive migration, with tens of thousands of flamingos flocking to the area to feed and breed.

Meet the Meerkats of the Kalahari Desert
Meeting the meerkats is a delightful and unique wildlife experience that allows visitors to observe these charismatic creatures up close in their natural habitat. This encounter is particularly popular in the Makgadikgadi Pans region. A typical meerkat encounter begins early in the morning, as the meerkats emerge from their burrows to start their day. Visitors often have the opportunity to sit quietly near the burrows and observe the meerkats up close.

Sleep in a Starbed
Sleeping in a sky bed in Botswana is an enchanting experience that lets you immerse yourself in the natural beauty of the African wilderness under a blanket of stars. Elevated on a platform in the heart of the bush, you can listen to the nocturnal sounds of wildlife while enjoying panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. This unique accommodation offers an unparalleled connection to nature, making for a truly unforgettable night in Botswana.

Special Occasions

Proposals
If you've decided to 'put a ring on it' then Botswana has some of the most romantic settings to propose to your 'Someone Special'. Think about somewhere wild, surrounded by exotic animals, in some of the most stunning scenery imaginable. Or, how about on the pristine sand of the Kalahari Desert. Guaranteed you'll hear the reply "YES"!

Weddings
Having a wedding in Botswana is a truly special experience due to the country's stunning natural landscapes, luxury lodges, and unique cultural elements. Couples can exchange vows against breathtaking backdrops like the Okavango Delta, with its lush waterways and abundant wildlife, or the majestic Chobe National Park, famous for its large elephant herds. The exclusivity and privacy offered by Botswana's high-end safari lodges ensure an intimate and unforgettable celebration, enhanced by personalized services, romantic activities, and the opportunity to immerse in the local culture, creating a wedding experience unlike any other.

Honeymoons
A romantic honeymoon in Botswana offers luxurious lodges, intimate wildlife encounters, and breathtaking landscapes, from the lush Okavango Delta to the arid Kalahari Desert. Couples can enjoy private game drives, sunset cruises, and cultural visits, ensuring a serene and exclusive experience. With stunning sunsets, personalized services, and unique activities like hot air balloon rides, Botswana creates unforgettable memories in one of Africa's most pristine settings.

Family Adventures
Happy kids = Happy families! Why not give the children an adventure of a life-time and create wonderful family memories together! Botswana is one of the ultimate family adventure destinations where the abundant wildlife and stunning landscapes provide an exciting and educational backdrop for children and adults alike. Families can embark on thrilling safaris, where kids can witness majestic animals up close, sparking a sense of wonder and fostering a connection with nature. Botswana's numerous national parks and reserves offer a variety of activities, from game drives to guided walks, from quad biking to horse riding, and even spending the day with wildlife rangers, allowing families to explore and learn together.

Botswanan Culture

Botswana's cultural mosaic extends beyond the Tswana heritage, embracing diversity and influences from various ethnic groups. While the Tswana people dominate, Botswana is also home to minority groups such as the Kalanga, San (Basarwa), and Herero, each contributing their unique traditions and customs to the country's cultural fabric. This diversity manifests in a kaleidoscope of languages, cuisines, and artistic expressions, enriching the cultural landscape and fostering a spirit of inclusivity.
The traditional attire of Botswana reflects both its heritage and modern influences, with colorful fabrics and intricate beadwork adorning ceremonial garments. Attire is often symbolic, conveying social status, cultural affiliation, and personal identity. Festivals and ceremonies are vibrant celebrations of Botswana's cultural heritage, providing opportunities for communities to come together in joyous revelry. Events like the Maun Festival, which celebrates the rich biodiversity of the Okavango Delta, and the Dithubaruba festival, a showcase of traditional dance and music, showcase the country's cultural vibrancy to locals and visitors alike.
Want to dive deeper into the culture and really immerse yourselves, try the local cuisine, talk to the guides and camp staff further about their cultures, they love to share their stories. We are happy to recommend and organise authentic cultural visits or local excursions where you can interact and learn about various cultures in a responsible way.

Booking with Ahnasa

At Ahnasa we will exceed your expectations in every way in crafting the perfect travel experience; an experience that will uplift your soul and bring a sense of happiness and peace every time you think about your safari. Our team

of incredible ladies work hand in hand to create the perfect extraordinary safari experience, making sure you leave with unforgettable memories of your trip etched in your mind and Africa in your heart.

At the core of Ahnasa's ethos is conservation – to help conserve Africa's extraordinary wildlife, preservation and restoration of the fragile environment, and empowerment and enrichment of local communities. This we do through responsible tourism. As well as raising funds through our guests' travels, we work and collaborate with companies sharing the same ethos of conservation. We support various conservation initiatives personally vetting various projects and organisations to ensure that our donations, or our guest's direct donations to them are used in an impactful way. We also have a number of projects which guests can donate to.

The Ahnasa team is available for constant support, from your initial inquiry to your safe return home. With team members in Kenya and the USA, we are available most any time of the day or night.

We love what we do, and it's the reason we do it! Our passion for travel and unique experiences has led us to explore the many extraordinary destinations across Botswana, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zanzibar. With more than a decade of knowledge and with our extensive experience in travel, we will create the perfect dream-filled safari with intimate moments in some of Africa's most breathtaking destinations. When you plan a trip with Ahnasa, we carefully and lovingly design a personalised safari, especially for you, ensuring a unique dream adventure that will touch your soul.