

BOOK BY  
JUNE 30  
AND **SAVE**  
**\$500 PER COUPLE**

CLASSIC  
*Escapes*



MIT Alumni Travel Program

# BOTSWANA

*Desert Sunset, Delta Dawn*

**FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 10, 2017**

Dear MIT Alumni & Friends,

Discover the magnificent landscapes and unique wildlife of Botswana, considered by many to be Africa's ultimate safari destination.

The presence or absence of water creates the thriving wildlife communities you will witness as you explore the varied landscapes of Botswana. Bleak salt beds stretch to the horizon where an ancient lake once lay in Makgadikgadi Pans National Park. Arid and barren most of the year, spring rains nourish latent seeds and sets vast herds to motion. Watch the seasonal migration of herds of wildebeest, zebra, antelope, and lion, and admire the life in the trees from colorful lilac breasted rollers to crooning baboons. In the Okavango Delta, the persistence of water has created a life giving oasis of islands, channels, and marshes surrounded by the Kalahari Desert. This is where the quintessential fauna of Africa congregate. Discover Botswana's myriad landscapes and the beasts that inhabit them.

Local rangers and your naturalist guide will provide educational insight throughout the program.

Reserve your space today! This program is limited to 22 travelers and has sold out in the past. If you have any questions or to confirm your reservation, please call the MIT Alumni Travel Program at 800-992-6749 or email [compass@mit.edu](mailto:compass@mit.edu).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Chapman Gresh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melissa Chapman Gresh  
Director, MIT Alumni Travel Program

P.S. please visit our website at [alum.mit.edu/travel](http://alum.mit.edu/travel) for details on all our programs. Find us on Facebook at MIT Alumni Travel Program.

# ITINERARY

## FEBRUARY 28/MARCH 1 ~ NEW YORK/JOHANNESBURG

D'OREALE GRANDE (Meals Aloft)

Depart from JFK airport for the overnight flight to South Africa. Arrive Johannesburg the following day, where you'll be escorted to the Emperors Palace, a hotel conveniently located near the airport in a complex offering an array of restaurants and beautiful grounds to wander and enjoy.

## MARCH 2/3 ~ JOHANNESBURG/MAUN/OKAVANGO DELTA

CAMP MOREMI (B,L,D Daily)

Return to the airport the following morning and depart on your flight to Maun. Travel by a light aircraft to the Okavango Delta and your accommodations at Camp Moremi. The Moremi Game Reserve occupies an area where the life-giving waters of the Okavango River give way to the arid expanses of the Kalahari Desert. Mopane forests cover many small islands that are separated by waterways filled with the chatter of birds. In the open grassland portions of the reserve, the African wild dog prowls in hopes of capturing a meal whilst the cheetah relies on its prodigious speed. You may be lucky enough to witness both. Activities here include game drives by open land cruiser and boating the channels and lagoons. You'll see exotic daily life of the delta. You may find a hippo watching you from a deep pool, a young baboon racing around a baobab tree, or a Lilac breasted Roller flitting from branch to branch. Return to camp for lunch before your afternoon game run as the nocturnal civet, genet, serval, and aardwolf begin to wake.

## MARCH 4/5 ~ OKAVANGO DELTA

CAMP OKAVANGO (B,L,D Daily)

Fly to Camp Okavango on the remote Nxaragha Island. Activities here will center around mokoro (dugout canoe) rides, boat excursions and walking safaris. See the delta from water level and relax as you glide through quiet reed-lined channels. Birding is excellent, with Pels Fishing Owl and Wattled Crane being observed with regularity. In all, more than 600 species reside within the 7000 square miles of islands, marshes, flood plains, and channels of which the Okavango is comprised. Feel the beat of Africa beneath your feet on a walking safari. Take a boat through the reeds to spot some of the larger species such as elephant, red lechwe, zebra, wildebeest, giraffe, baboon, monkey, warthog, and buffalo, along with major predators such as the lion, leopard, and hyena. You may spot the elusive sitatunga antelope, which has been known to sleep in the water with only its nostrils resting above the water's surface.

## MARCH 6/7/8 ~ MAKGADIKGADI/NXAI PANS/KHUMAGA VILLAGE

LEROO LA TAU (B,L,D Daily)

Leave the Delta behind as you fly to Leroo La Tau at the edge of Makgadikgadi Pans National Park, named for ancient Lake Makgadikgadi that disappeared thousands of years ago. What remains is a collection of salt pans that cover approximately 6,200 square miles due south of the Okavango Delta. The camp is situated on the banks of the Boteti River and commands superb views. Next day, drive to Nxai Pan National Park, named for one of the salt pans that comprised the bed of the erstwhile Lake Makgadikgadi. These pans transform during the rainy season between November and March, when they fill with water, their stark whiteness giving way to lush greenery. Year round, small populations of springbok, giraffe, and gemsbok antelope can be found. Herds of zebra and wildebeest arrive as well, bringing with them opportunistic predators such as hyena and lion. Visit Baines Baobabs, an oasis of the iconic "upside down" baobab trees, named for the first European to have seen them. These trees are now part of a protected national monument and provide a shady vantage point from which to view the desolate beauty of the Kudiakam Pan. Leroo La Tau works very closely with the community of Khumaga Village, which is located near the lodge. A visit to the village and the local school will be included in your stay at Leroo La Tau, for a highly personal cultural experience. A farewell open-air dinner with traditional storytelling will bookend your day.

## MARCH 9/10 ~ LEROO LA TAU/MAUN/JOHANNESBURG/NEW YORK

(B, Meals Aloft)

Enjoy one last wildlife run this morning before your transfer to Maun by light aircraft for your return flights home, bringing with you the memories of all the wonderful sights of Southern Africa.



Lechwe in the wetlands.



Gliding through the Okavango Delta in a mokoro canoe.

## MAIN PROGRAM COSTS

**FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 10, 2017**

### PRICE PER PERSON

- \$6,695 land and air between camps in Africa, double occupancy.
- \$2,695 single supplement.
- \$2,590 estimated international airfare from New York, including flights and airline taxes and fuel surcharges.
- \$790 internal air within Africa if purchasing own international air.
- Trip costs are based on a minimum of 10 travelers.

## MAIN PROGRAM INCLUDES

- Light aircraft transfers between Maun and camps and between camps.
- Superior accommodations throughout as indicated or similar.
- All meals while on safari. Other meals as specified in itinerary.
- All wildlife viewing by 4X4 open vehicles, driven by professional rangers.
- Professional naturalist will accompany the group with a minimum of 10 travelers on the main program and the extensions.
- Laundry and all local beverages during safari in Botswana except for Champagne and imported spirits.
- Complimentary bottled water in vehicles throughout.
- All applicable hotel and lodge taxes and gratuities for baggage handling.
- All park entry fees and sightseeing as specified.
- Baggage tags and passport wallet.

### OPTIONAL PRE-EXTENSION TO VICTORIA FALLS & CHOBE

#### **VICTORIA FALLS – DEPARTS FEBRUARY 24, 2017** PRICE PER PERSON

- \$3,495, including the flights to Victoria Falls, double occupancy.
- \$995 single supplement.

### OPTIONAL POST-EXTENSION TO CAPE TOWN

#### **CAPE TOWN – RETURNS MARCH 14, 2017** PRICE PER PERSON

- \$2,995 double occupancy, including roundtrip flights to Johannesburg/Cape Town.
- \$495 single supplement.



Your adventure begins in Zimbabwe with the idyllic experience of Victoria Falls. This incredible spectacle — “The Smoke That Thunders,” as it is known to locals — is the world’s largest waterfall. Enjoy a sundowner cruise on the Zambezi River and visit a rural village to experience age-old traditions. Head to Chobe National Park, home to some of the largest elephant herds on the continent. Stay at Chobe Game Lodge in the heart of the park and be pampered with superb service and cuisine.



End your journey with a retreat in Cape Town. Enjoy stunning accommodations at the historic Taj Cape Town. Ascend Table Mountain and take the coastal route to the Cape of Good Hope to discover spectacular wildlife and the braying “jackass” penguins at Boulders Beach. Tour the brilliant Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens and spend a day in the famed Boland Valley wine region. Visit the settlement of Khayelitsha with a township guide and get an eye-opening historical tour of Robben Island.



In awe of the sunrise at Leroo La Tau, the view from your room.

*“The naturalist guide did an excellent job sharing his knowledge of and enthusiasm for the people and the wildlife of Botswana. His experiences in Africa added to what we learned.”*

— MIT Past Traveler,  
2014 Botswana Trip



A lioness keeps watch over a safari group in the Delta.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS**

The MIT Alumni Travel Program

800-992-6749

compass@mit.edu

### CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL

**HOW TO BOOK:** Fill out the reservation form and send it, along with the relevant deposit as shown, to: MIT Alumni Travel Program, 600 Memorial Drive W98-200, Cambridge, MA 02139. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form and deposit, we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. You may consider your booking confirmed when you receive a confirmation notice and invoice from Classic Escapes and the MIT Alumni Travel Program.

**RATES:** Rates are based on the minimum number of guests outlined in this document, as well as internal airfare quoted in April 2016. Though it is rare for Classic Escapes to make a price adjustment after promotion of an itinerary, they reserve the right to assess a surcharge if the minimum is not met, or if increases are imposed by the airlines.

**INSURANCE:** It is the sole responsibility of the guest to ensure that they carry the correct comprehensive travel and medical insurance to cover themselves, as well as any dependents/traveling companions for the duration of their trip to Africa. This insurance should include cover in respect of, but not limited to, the following eventualities: cancellation or curtailment of the safari, emergency evacuation expenses, medical expenses, repatriation expenses, damage/theft/loss of personal baggage, money and goods. Neither the MITAA, nor Classic Escapes, including their representatives, employees and agents take responsibility for any costs, losses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guest's dependents or traveling companions, with regards to, but not limited to, any of the above mentioned circumstances. Guests will be charged directly by the relevant service providers for any emergency services they may require, and may find themselves in a position unable to access such services should they not be carrying the relevant insurance coverage. A comprehensive travel insurance information and application will be forwarded upon receipt of your reservation form. The payment of the deposit OR any other partial payment for a reservation on a safari constitutes consent by all guests covered by that payment to all provisions of the conditions and general information contained in this brochure whether the guest has signed the booking form or not. The terms under which you agree to take this safari cannot be changed or amended except in writing signed by an authorized director of Classic Escapes.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Neither Classic Escapes (the Company), nor the MIT Alumni Association (MITAA), nor any person or agent acting for, through or on behalf of the Company shall be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever arising from any cause whatsoever and, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, shall particularly not be responsible for loss or damage arising from any errors or omissions contained in its brochure or other literature, loss or damage caused by delays, sickness, theft, injury or death. In addition, the Company and the MITAA shall have the right at any time at its discretion to cancel any safari or the remainder thereof or make any alteration in route, including accommodation, price or other details and, in the event of any safari being rendered impossible, illegal or inadvisable by weather, strike, war, government or interference or any other cause whatsoever, the extra expenses incurred as a result thereof shall be the responsibility of the passenger. The Company may at its discretion and without liability or cost to itself at any time cancel or terminate the guest's booking, and in particular without limiting the generality of the foregoing it shall be entitled to do so in the event of the illness or the illegal or incompatible behavior of the guest, who shall in such circumstances not be entitled to any refund.

**CANCELLATIONS:** Cancellations are only effective on Classic Escapes' receipt of written notification. The following per person fees are applicable on this tour:

- Up to November 25, 2016, less \$300 handling fee, and \$250 non-refundable deposits given to overseas suppliers.
- November 26 to December 30, 2016, deposit is forfeited.
- December 31, 2016 to January 14, 2017, less 75% of tour cost.
- After January 14, 2017, no refund is possible.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any imposed by airline.

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN THE OPTIONAL TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE POLICY.

The MIT Alumni Travel Program provides further information about the Travel Program and the relationship between the Alumni Association and the tour operator online at: [alum.mit.edu/travel/About](http://alum.mit.edu/travel/About)



Observing the bounty of African wildlife on the water.



The jewel-toned Malachite Kingfisher enjoying breakfast.

# BOOK BY JUNE 30 AND SAVE \$500 PER COUPLE



MIT Alumni Travel Program

RESERVATION FORM: (Please Print)

TOUR CODE: 17AFL0228/MIT

Enclosed is my deposit for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$1,000 per person, plus \$250 per person for each extension) to hold \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) on the safari to Botswana departing the U.S. on February 28, 2017.

**Final payment due date is November 25, 2016, and must be made by check or money order.**

I would like to charge my deposit to my credit card:  AMEX  MasterCard  Visa  Discover

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ EXP \_\_\_\_\_ CVN \_\_\_\_\_

NAME:  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on passport)

NAME:  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on passport)

NAME FOR NAME BADGE IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE: 1) \_\_\_\_\_  
2) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBERS: HOME: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

MOBILE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

We are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with:  
 One Bed  Two Beds

I am sharing with \_\_\_\_\_ (form sent separately).

I need assistance in securing a roommate. I understand if no roommate is available by the final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single supplement. I prefer to share with:  
 Smoker  Nonsmoker

I desire single accommodations, if available, and will pay the single supplement additional cost of:  
 For the main trip, \$2,695  For the pre-extension, \$995  For the post-extension, \$995

I/We wish to participate on the optional extensions:  
 \$3,495 per person double occupancy, for the Victoria Falls & Chobe pre-extension including the flight Johannesburg/Victoria Falls  
 \$2,995 per person double occupancy for the Cape-Town post-extension including the flight Johannesburg/Cape Town

Please make my/our round-trip air reservations on the group flights from New York.  
(Other departure cities available upon request; prices quoted at time of request.)

I/We will make own air arrangements and will provide you with an itinerary before trip departure.  
I/We understand I will be billed \$790 for on tour flights Johannesburg/Maun/Johannesburg.

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THE PURCHASE OF TRAVEL INSURANCE. RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO TOUR CONDITIONS AND WILL BE CONFIRMED ONLY IF ACCOMPANIED BY COMPLETED FORM SIGNED BY THE TOUR PARTICIPANT(S).

I/WE HAVE READ THE CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL ON THIS BROCHURE AND UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS STATED HEREIN:

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_


By signing the above I agree to the terms stated in the "Conditions of Travel" panel on the inside of the brochure. For more information on the terms and conditions visit the MIT Alumni Travel Program website at [alum.mit.edu/travel](http://alum.mit.edu/travel).

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CLASSIC ESCAPES AND SEND TO  
MIT ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM  
600 MEMORIAL DRIVE, 2ND FLOOR  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139



**MIT Alumni Travel Program**  
600 Memorial Drive, 2nd Floor  
Cambridge, MA 02139-4822



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