

Botswana

Travel Facts



US State Department Travel Advisory

The US State Department currently recommends US citizens exercise increased caution in Botswana due to crime. <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

For the latest passport and visa requirements for this country, please consult the US State Department's "Learn About Your Destination" search tool, available through the link below.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html>

US Embassy/Consulate

[267] 395-3982; US Embassy Gaborone, Embassy Drive, Government Enclave, (off Khama Crescent), Gaborone, Botswana; <https://bw.usembassy.gov/>; ConsularGaborone@state.gov

LGBTQIA+, Women, and Special Needs Travelers

Additional travel considerations can be found on the US State Department's International Travel page.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations.html>

Telephone Code

267

Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance 997; Police 999; Medical Rescue 911

Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for Botswana: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, yellow fever, rabies, meningitis, polio, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), chickenpox, shingles, pneumonia, influenza, and COVID-19. <http://www.who.int/>

Climate

Semiarid; warm winters and hot summers

Currency (Code)

Botswana pulas (BWP)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): D, M, N



Type D



Type M



Type N

Major Languages

Setswana, Sekalanga, Shekgalagadi, English, Zezuru/Shona, Sesarwa, Sembukushu, Ndebele

Major Religions

Christian, Badimo, other, none, unspecified

Time Difference

UTC+2 (7 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

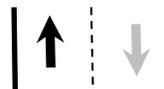
Opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Left



Tourist Destinations

Chobe National Park; Okavango Delta; Tsodilo Hills; Nxai Pan National Park; Tuli Block; Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park; Mokolodi Nature Reserve

Major Sports

Soccer, boxing, softball, cricket, rugby

Cultural Practices

Handshakes, in Botswana, are more intricate than in western countries and involve the left hand placed under the right elbow.

Tipping Guidelines

Tip \$1-2 (USD) per bag for porters to bring luggage to your room. A \$1-2 (USD) tip for hotel staff is also common. A \$10 (USD) per day tip is average for guides.

Souvenirs

Woven baskets, native dolls, leather and textile items, wood carvings, jewelry and ostrich shell items

Traditional Cuisine

Seswaa (or loswao) — beef or goat meat boiled with salt until tender and sometimes pounded; often served with maize meal, ground corn, or sorghum

