

# Botswana Fam Trip: Impact Report

*The Adventure Connection's goal is to be transparent about the impact of our Fam Trips on the environment, culture and local economy of the destinations visited.*

*We measure the CO2 emissions and highlight the sustainable elements of every Fam Trip we operate. Details for the Botswana Fam Trip with Bush Ways can be found below.*

## Impact on the local economy

Bush Ways is a 100% locally owned and operated DMC. All staff are from Botswana with all guides being directly employed by Bush Ways.

The Fam trip will be accompanied by one full time guide and three camp assistants at various points on the trip.

Bush Ways own four of the camps/lodges we will stay on the Fam. The lodges create employment for local people. Experienced camp/lodge managers from Botswana in each location, training is given to local staff to progress their career within the lodges.

Working with a DMC partner that prioritises local employment ensures tourism leakage is minimised and decent work opportunities are given to the host community.

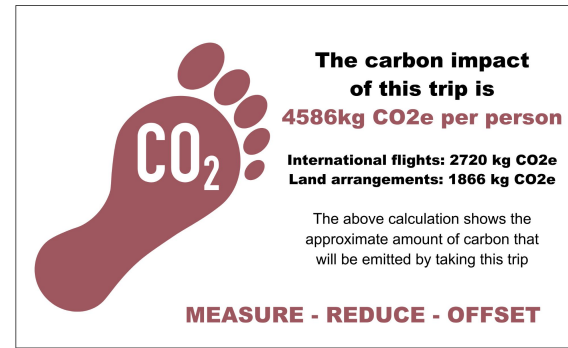
## Impact on the local environment

All of Bush Ways safari vehicles have a [water filtration](#) system so plastic bottles do not need to be used. Single use items are minimised for any picnics or sundowner experiences.

The camps and lodges ensure single use toiletries are reduced by using refillable bottles. Where possible local producers supply the lodges with consumables.

Khwai Guest House, Sango Safari Camp, Pioneers Lodge and Deception Valley Lodge both reduce their emissions by having solar panels installed. Deception Valley Lodge has returned farmland to nature to ensure the free roaming of wildlife and grows produce for use in the lodge.

Most meals will be at the lodges, local produce is used where possible. However, much of the food is imported due to the remote nature of the camps/lodges.



# Botswana Fam Trip: Sustainability & Carbon Footprint

## Conservation Impact

Bush Ways are passionate about conservation and preserving the environment of Botswana. They work closely with the local community to ensure they see the value in wildlife conservation.

All wildlife encounters are responsibly run, Bush Ways directly run their game drives. Guide training takes place twice a year with the Head Guide covering responsible wildlife encounters.

All camp and lodge staff are aware of conservation efforts on their areas and can actively speak to guests about conservation.

## Impact on the cultural heritage and community

**Khwai Village is a community managed concession**, tourism revenue goes to the Khwai Community Development Fund. The [Bush Ways Foundation](#) has helped fund the pre-school and helped to manage the human/wildlife conflict by funding wooden doors to the community which keeps the wildlife from entering property. Local culture and skills are preserved in the concessions due to the community led approach.

The women of the **Wayeyi community** in Makgadikgadi benefit from tourism through the [Khumaga Craft Project](#), this a cooperative creates jewellery to sell to tourists. The project has upskilled women to give them the opportunity to run their own business whilst benefiting from tourism.

In Wayeyi, human/wildlife conflict has been managed by supporting farmers to protect their livestock, thus protecting incomes and encourage coexistence with wildlife.

Bush Ways ensures they communicate with the communities to ensure that visitors numbers are manageable for them. They respect that this is their home and engage with the hosts to ensure visitors are not imposing and spread visits across different areas of the concession. The Khwai villagers understand that this is a way of life and tourism helps to conserve their culture and environment. The Khwai people have embraced tourism and appreciate that tourism revenue ensures their way of life can be sustained.

Educational opportunities are available for local schools, children are given opportunities to go on game drives where Bush Ways guides educate them on conservation. This fosters an understanding of the importance of tourism and conservation to the area; as well as demonstrating employment opportunities in the tourism industry.

