



ALAN MACSMITH

“My personal philosophy as a guide is about creating and facilitating meaningful moments on safari, but also platforming conservation based experiences.”

Guiding Experience: Alan has been professionally guiding since 1988.

Regional Knowledge & Expertise: Botswana, South Africa, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Chad.

Ideal for Accompanying: Small intimate groups, solo travellers, couples, journalists, photographers.

Areas of Special Interest: Walking & tracking, elephants and elephant conservation, the Okavango Delta and Moremi Game Reserve.

Qualifications:

- Alan is one of the most acclaimed walking guides in the industry, in particular his interactions with elephants.
- He is all about down to earth fire-side conversations and empathetic guiding.
- Alan has covered some 3000 kms by dugout in the Okavango, including 3 historical unsupported traverses of 600 km each.
- His experience includes about 7 years of lodge management and operating fly-camping safaris plus conducting, private overland safaris for exclusive groups.
- He has an advanced trails guide qualification through FGASA as well as a Botswana Guide License.
- He is also a TEDx speaker.

Languages: English, basic Setswana.

Currently Lives: Hoedspruit, South Africa.

OPERATES IN BOTSWANA & PARTS OF AFRICA

After 30+ years in the saddle, Alan continues to break new ground as a safari and wilderness guide. A lifetime of exploration and discovery, not to mention the traditional knowledge and wisdom of baYei, Bushman, Herero and Shangaan trackers and guides have made lasting impressions. Wilderness, therefore, is no longer a place but a way of life and he remains committed to share meaningful wildlife encounters, storytelling and old school hospitality, preferably around a remote African campfire.

Alan's deep understanding of the wild and his readiness to share it with all who are interested makes him a much sought after wildlife and wilderness guide. But it is not just his knowledge and experience that makes spending time on safari with him so special; it is also his gentle, self-effacing manner, sense of humour and relaxed character that makes it such a treasured event.

For Alan, there's no place quite like the Okavango Delta. Its been over 30 years since he first led walking and dugout canoe activities in the delta. It's the pristine and wild sense of place, the abundance of game, the walking and tracking opportunities, and of course the legendary elephant herds that are most captivating.

There is a River Bushman legend that suggests that once you drink from the waters of the Okavango, you will always return. Of the ancient land of the Kalahari, the birthplace of it all, you will find a vast oasis known as the Okavango. This is where time began.