

THAMALAKANE RIVER LODGE FACTFILE 2023

Thamalakane River Lodge is ideally located an easy 20-minute drive from Maun Airport en route to the famous Moremi Game Reserve. It is a secluded haven of tranquility nestled in a grove of mature riverine trees on the bank of the Thamalakane River. The rambling lodge has an idyllic setting and is committed to service excellence. It is a delightful place to come home to after a day spent exploring.

ACCOMMODATION

THAMALAKANE RIVER LODGE:

Character en-suite stone chalets, are positioned in the shade of the riverine forest, overlooking the river. All chalets and common areas have terraces that take advantage of the serene 180 degree view of the riverbanks lined with fluttering reeds visited by an ever changing array of water fowl and birds.

THAMALAKANE RIVER LODGE CHALET TYPES

32 x Babbler chalets - sleeping 2 adults on King-size or twin beds: The spacious chalet interiors with an en-suite bathroom consisting of a shower, hand-basin and toilet. Rooms are equipped with tea and coffee making facilities, ceiling fans and mosquito nets. Rooms are well ventilated with a unique "skylight type" wall. Sleeper couches are located in 8 of the babbler rooms for one or two children under 12 at a surcharge. Free wifi available in all babbler rooms.

2 x King Fisher family units: Consisting of 2 bedrooms sharing one bathroom. One bedroom accommodates 2 adults in a king beds and the other bedroom sleeps 2 children under 12 on twin beds. These units' have small lounge areas and a terrace overlooking the river. The bathrooms consist of shower, toilet, and vanity slab with a hand basin.

SERVICES AND FACILITIES

DINING

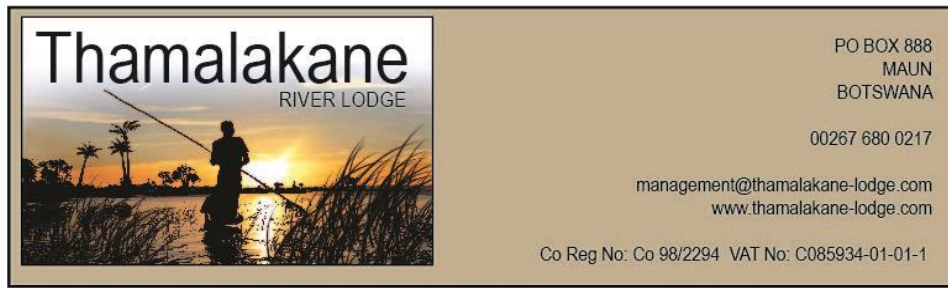
The restaurant is a rambling thatch and wood structure with magnificent views of the Thamalakane River. Dusk is spectacular, with the sun setting the river ablaze as it slowly dips behind the trees.

The widely acclaimed restaurant offers a formal dining area where exceptional a la carte meals are served Jan - March and a wide variety plated menu from April to December. Choose to sit inside the restaurant or outside on extended decks overlooking the Thamalakane River. Thamalakane Restaurant offers an extensive, well priced wine list. It is fast being recognized as the best dining experience in Maun. Breakfasts are included in the rates.

BAR

The expansive bar counter is deeply shaded and overlooks the restaurant. It has a horseshoe-shaped stone base topped by a thick slab of polished exotic wood and is surrounded by tall wrought iron ladder-back chairs.

On either side of the bar, intimate groupings of leather sofas and armchairs are gathered around square coffee tables on thick oriental rugs. Enjoy a gin and tonic watching the sunset after a long days travelling.



THE TERRACE

Beyond the dining room, square teak tables and armchairs are arranged around a tree-shaded flagstone terrace overlooking the river. The terrace is a popular spot for relaxed al fresco meals and sundowner drinks.

POOL

In the center of a well-kept lawn, a double swimming pool is surrounded by evergreen gardens. The pool overlooks the river and it's a fantastic place to rest. Lounging poolside, bird-spotting and reading are favorite activities around the lodge.

CURIO SHOP

A small curio shop is on site for guest's enjoyment. Adaptors and Mosquito repellent are sold as well.

SPA

An on-site spa facility is available offering massages, pedicures and manicures. Book your session at reception or directly at the SPA.

GIN LOUNGE

An intimate air conditioned room with leather couches serving Gins from all over the world. Relax and watch the sunset over the river.

ACTIVITIES

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Thamalakane offers boating activities from the lodge depending on water levels, if not guests are transported to a suitable boating station. Birding opportunities abound at the lodge, small mokoro trips, short guided walks are on offer. We are perfectly positioned to explore some of Botswana's "must see" attractions:

Moremi Day Trip /Overnights

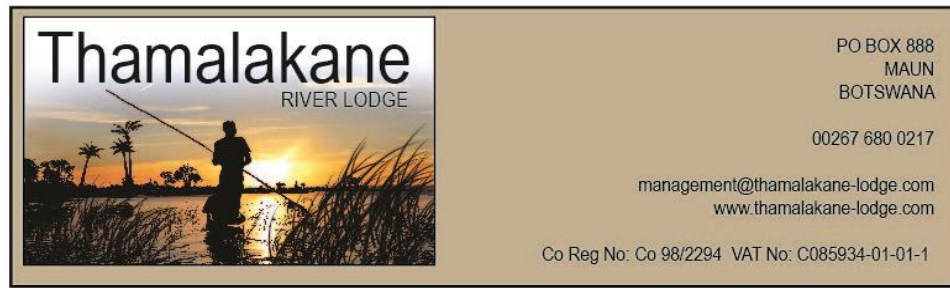
Travelling time to the Moremi: 1hour 30 minutes Trips commence from 05h30 and back between 16h00 and 17h30. Trips are undertaken in 4x4 game viewing vehicles with a qualified Guide. Guests transferred from the lodge and enjoy a full day in the Moremi Game Reserve. Breakfast and lunch packs are provided.

Mokoro Day Trip/Overnights

Boro Poler Trust – 60 minutes drive (Mokoro trips on the Delta) transfers by boat or game vehicle (seasonal) Guests are picked up at the lodge and transferred to Boro Poler station where they embark on a guided walk and a Mokoro adventure. Lunch packs and two waters are included in this day trip.

Boat Daytrip Into The Okavango Delta/Overnights

Enjoy a wonderful day on the Thamalakane and Boro River with plentiful wildlife and birds and an expert guide. Trips commence from 08h30 and back at around 16h00. Lunch packs and two waters are included.

**One hour sunset cruises by boat or Mokoro.**

Enjoy the fantastic sunset over the river by boat or by Mokoro leaving from Thamalakane River lodge at 17h00 in winter and 17h30 in summer. Hourly cruises can also be booked at any time of the day.

Mobile safaris.

We value our guest's and tailor make each safari to suit their needs, luxury, comfort and budget. Our safaris are in prime wilderness areas offering guests a private and comfortable experience no matter how big or small a group. Families with children are welcome! Moremi, Khway, Savuti, Linyanti, Makgadikgadi Pans, Baines Baobabs and Chiefs island are some of the areas for safari.

Trans Okavango boating trips

Nothing comes close to travelling the Okavango Delta from the Panhandle in northern Botswana down to Thamalakane River Lodge in the south by boat, exploring the Moremi Game Reserve and the famous Chief's Island through the waterways filled with wildlife and birdlife. A very exclusive all inclusive safari by boat staying over in 5 star camps as you make your way down.

Makgadikgadi pans

Travelling time to Gweta: 2 hours 30 mins in a closed vehicle.

Game vehicle from Gweta, see the meerkats and enjoy the vastness of the pans.

Overnight on the pans in bedroll's enjoying the African night sky. Meals and 2 waters are included in this day trip.

Cultural village

10 minutes' drive or walk - visit the nearby village of the local Bayei tribe and explore the cultural and domestic aspects of village life traditional food and dancing on display.

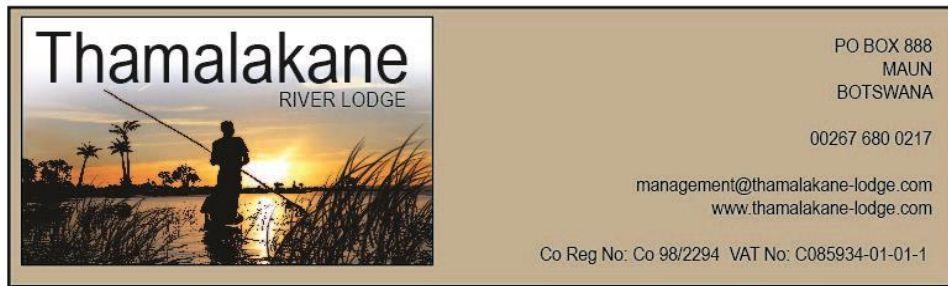
Boat transfers

Should guests not be keen on flying into the Delta with a small plane Thamalakane Offers boat transfers to most of the Lodges in the Delta. Kindly book in advance so that the travel permissions can be arranged. Note that this is based on water levels.

Maun transfers - Travelling time to Maun: 15 minutes by shared vehicle available.

Almost all tourists entering the Okavango do so through Maun, situated at the gateway to the Delta and Moremi Game Reserve. Maun is the tourism capital of Botswana and the administrative centre of Ngamiland. It is also the headquarters of countless safari and air-charter operations whose signs and offices dot almost every intersection, particularly towards the airport.

Since the town's establishment in 1915 as the tribal capital of the Batawana people, Maun has had a rough and ready reputation as a hard-living 'Wild West' town servicing the local cattle ranching and hunting operations. But with the growth of the tourism industry and the completion of the tar road from Nata in the early 1990s, Maun has developed rapidly, losing much of its old frontier town character. It is now home to over 30,000 people.



Regular supplies of almost everything can be bought in Maun, and the town boasts several good shopping centres, filling stations, as well as car and four-wheel-drive vehicle hire. The Maun Airport, which was officially opened in 1996 after extensive renovations, is - if one counts the light aircraft charters to the various Delta camps - one of the busiest airports in Southern Africa.

The name Maun is derived from the San word "maung", which means "the place of short reeds". The village began in 1915 as the capital for the Tawana people. The capital was moved from Toteng after glorious victory over Ndebele King Lobengula.

This metropolis is now spread out along the wide banks of the timeless Thamalakane River where red lechwe can still be seen grazing next to local donkeys, goats and cattle.

Areas of interest in and around Maun include the small Maun Game Reserve which covers just 8km² of woodland. It follows the Thamalakane riverbank upstream from the Best Western Riley's Hotel and includes the original "Place of Reeds" from which the town takes its name. The reserve is open every day and is traversed by numerous walking trails for which a small entrance. Various cultural tours can be arranged, where one would have the opportunity of learning more about the customs of the locals.

DIRECTIONS:

From Maun take the Shorobe road towards Moremi Game Reserve. 19kms from Maun turn left at the sign and the lodge is 700 mts off the road.

GPS: S 19°53.052 E 023°33.274

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