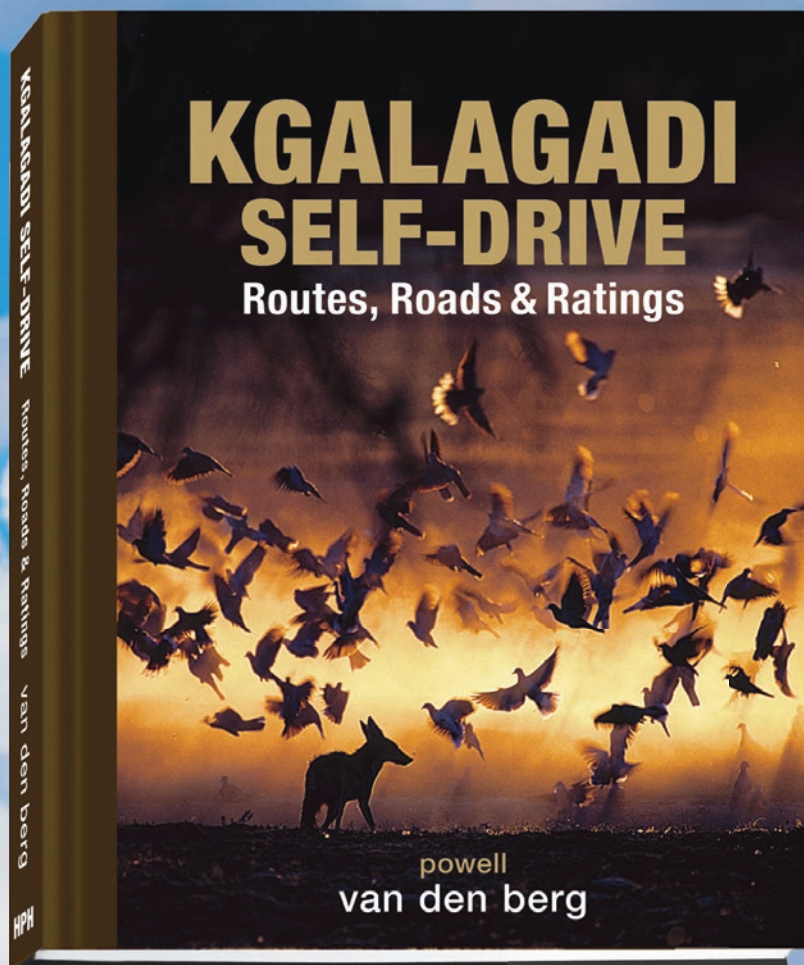


NEW for October 2017



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Self-Drive is the popular alternative to the guided tour safari – and the freedom it brings to do what you want when you want and stay where you like within the budget you set means it will continue to grow.

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best time of day, ratings (key features)
inset advice bars; full wildlife details**

**WHEN YOU COLLECT THE KEYS AND CLIMB ABOARD
YOUR HIRE 4x4, DO NOT FORGET THIS BOOK!**

★★★
Mabuasehube Area
4x4 enter from Nossob/
Bosobogolo access road or
Mabuasehube Gate

33.9 km from Mata Mata Camp; 8 km from
12th Borehole
S25°56'46" E20°13' 5"

The Mabuasehube area of the Kgalagadi
Transfrontier Park comprises a series of
exceptionally large pans, which are the principal
focus of this region. Campsites dot the various
pans, and many are situated on slight outcrops,
giving almost unimpeded views, thus making for
good game viewing right from your campsite. Four-
wheel-drive trails offer the opportunity to do game
drives in this remote eastern part of the Park, which
is not accessible to the average tourist.

The main circular route connects the three largest pans –
Bosobogolo, Moyaithutha and Mabuasehube. Other pans
are Leshoatse, Khiding and the fossil valley complex called

Monamodi, which are linked to the larger pans by sand tracks.
The terrain in the Mabuasehube area is slightly undulating
and dunes are not very high although the substrate is
heavy sand. The vegetation is a mixture of typical Kalahari
savannah with trees and shrubs separated by patches of
open grassland. All the major predators can be seen, includ-
ing the Kalahari black-maned lion, cheetah, leopard, brown
hyena, bat-eared fox and caracal. Look out for small mam-
mals like Cape fox, aardwolf and black-footed cat waiting the
pans in the evening. Even wild dog are encountered from
time to time.

Visitors are not allowed to travel before sunrise or after
dark, but most of the campsites around the pans have a view
on to a pan and some of the nocturnal animals may pass
through your campsite at night. There is quite a big lion pride
frequents these pans, sometimes not seen for days, but
often preferring to lie under the shade trees reserved for tour-
ist camping. Members of the pride don't always move about
together and you may encounter only two or three at a time.
These lions are particularly wild and not used to people, so
you should be alert and expect the unexpected.

Although game diversity is the same as elsewhere in the
Park, one must be prepared for the fact that animals are
widely dispersed and not always seen. If you wish to see
game, the two fossil riverbeds are the places to go, but if you
want adventure and a true wilderness experience, there is
nothing to beat the Mabuasehube area.



Traveling on the Botswana side means that you must be
equipped to be completely self-sufficient. It is important to
take a considerable quantity of extra fuel, as the high engine
revs required in deep sand driving plays havoc with fuel con-
sumption. Nossob (eight hours away) is the only semi-reliable
fuel depot. Take at least twice the capacity of a normal fuel
tank.

Each pan is different. The floor of Mabuasehube Pan is
bare clay that is rich in salts, and this attracts animals that
come to lick the surface, deriving essential minerals from it.
The floor of Bosobogolo Pan is covered by short, shrubby
grassland where antelope come to graze followed by their
predators. Moyaithutha Pan offers an open view over the
grass-covered concrete surface. After rains these pans fill
with water and that provides an excellent wildlife and wilder-
ness experience.

All campsites are unfenced and you are responsible for
your own safety. The best camping sites are on the fringes of
the Mabuasehube Pan. Number One site is very basic with
no facilities or water, but is more secluded and has beautiful
views from a low ridge to the west of the pan. The other three
have A-frame shelters plus shower enclosure, pit latrine and
a water supply. Numbers Two and Three are close together to
the south and share the amenities. The road around the pan
passes close to these last three sites, but all have wonderful
views on the pan.

Moyaithutha Pan has two well-spaced camping sites





along the north of the pan, both with A-frame shelters and
a long-drop toilet. Both these campsites overlook the pan
and are recommended, but the road passes close to Number
One.

The two campsites at Bosobogolo Pan both have A-frame
shelters and a long-drop toilet, but only Number One has a
shower enclosure and a tap.

There is quite a lot of bush around the Khiding campsites
and predators can surprise you because they cannot be seen
until they are close to the camp. The A-frame structures pro-
vide shelter and the same basic amenities are provided. The
two campsites are situated close to each other and both have
stunning westward views of the pan. Bring your own drinking
water.

Leshoatse Pan offers two campsites both with A-frame
shelters and long-drop toilet but only site Number Two has
water and an enclosure for a bush shower.

There are three campsites with A-frame shelters at the
Monamodi depression close to the Mabuasehube East Gate.
Here a full ablution block with toilet, shower and drinking wa-
ter is available for campers.

Stargazing is a perfect night-time activity. Mabuasehube
and all other Botswana campsites are ideal because they are
all so remote and without any light pollution. The skies are
best in winter when the firmament is ablaze with stars, so
thickly scattered it feels almost as though you could wade
through them.



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SANParks
Main Camps

Twee Rivieren, Nossob and Mata Mata



KGALAGADI SELF-DRIVE ROUTES, ROADS & RATINGS £29^{HB}

Photos by Van den Berg; Texts by Philip & Ingrid van den Berg, Heinrich van den Berg and Jaco Powell

isbn 978-0-620-47406-1

KEY FEATURES

- Comprehensive guide to all roads and routes
- Easy-to-read maps of each route and road with conditions and advice
- Useful information on all aspects of the Park: lodges + camps, what you can expect to see: where and when
- Accurate navigational and geographic information (GPS)
- Hard cover for practical use in a vehicle
- All wildlife photographs taken from a vehicle on regular routes



This book is a product of exceptional teamwork - sometimes independently, at other times in a group - but always towards this book as a common goal. Over the years, each member of the team has developed something of a love-affair with the Kgalagadi. It is a place they value and respect, and this book was a long-nurtured dream they all shared.

Local knowledge is the cornerstone of any visit to a park, and this is what this book offers. Jaco Powell has been escorting guests to the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park for the 20 years. He knows every single bend and cranny along the roads and tracks, knows where to look and what animals to expect where and when. Disclosing the special wonders of this world whilst escorting guests is not only his livelihood, but his passion. He knows what intrigues people, what questions they ask and how to put it all into perspective. His fervour is contagious, and his knowledge extensive. With a B.Sc degree in Zoology and Entomology, as well as post-graduate research on Kalahari trees and a passion photography, Jaco was the ideal person to join the Van den Bergs on this project. He was responsible for the local knowledge which the book was designed around. He also contributed invaluable with his photographs.

Philip and Ingrid van den Berg have been visiting the Park on a regular basis since the early 1970s. They have seen the Park in green and grey years; experienced the growth in tourism and rejoiced in the many new developments. Over the years they noticed the changes in visitors' attitudes - simply ticking off names on a tick list is no longer enough. People want to know more, share more, understand better. The urge to capture special moments and the magnificent wildlife on digital devices is increasing. Local and international photographers now make the Kgalagadi one of their preferred destinations. Visitors no longer want to merely see, but also wish to understand and experience the "big picture". Ingrid was responsible for weaving the form - researching and writing the text. With her B.Sc. Hons (Zoology), also encompassing Botany and Entomology, she was well-equipped for the task. Both Philip and Ingrid contributed their photography. Philip ran the photo library and ensured that the right pictures were selected and edited. With his extensive nature knowledge, he reviewed the texts and offered invaluable input. His background in Environmental Education was invaluable.

For Heinrich van den Berg the Kgalagadi has always been a source of inspiration for his photography and writing. Putting the book together was like a dream - experiencing the wonders all over again and seeing it develop into something that will hopefully be of value to others. Heinrich owns HPH Publishing. He has successfully published over 30 books with Philip and Ingrid. He is a professional wildlife photographer, film-maker and publisher, enjoys creative writing, and offers photography workshops.



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