

BOTSWANA COUNTRY INFO

The Location

We will be serving in Maun, along the wide banks of the Thamalakane River, during their winter/dry season. It is the main gateway to the Okavango Delta, with headquarters for numerous safari operations and many cattle drives. Botswana, one of Africa's most stable countries, protects some of Africa's largest areas of wilderness and is the world's largest producer of diamonds.

The Condition

Even though diamonds have transformed the country to a middle-income nation, the country still struggles with the devastation caused by AIDS and wide spread poverty, as well as the decline of mainline churches.

The Strategy

As we worship and serve together, our team will bring light into the spiritual darkness and help the truth of the Gospel shine brighter than ever!! Once you arrive in country, you will be involved in a variety of ministry opportunities. These include loving on orphans that have lost their families to AIDS, teaching about HIV/AIDS prevention, delivering food and supplies to the elderly/disabled, working with local pastors to evangelize their communities, community development projects, evangelism presentations and one-on-one outreach.

Cultural Tips

In Botswana most of the tribes have different ways that they use to greet one another, but for easy communication and connection 'batswana' use a three way hand shake or one can just greet another by saying "Dumelang" as a way of saying "hello" without having to use hand shakes. In community celebrations or during marriage ceremonies 'batswana' women show excitement and happiness by the use of ululations (howling or wailing sounds) as part of their culture.

The food of Botswana is unique. Some examples of traditional local dishes are pap (maize porridge), Vetkoek (fried dough bread), seswaa (heavily salted mashed-up meat), wild spinach or pumpkin sauces and mopane worms.

Adventure Day

- Explore the natural beauty of the Okavango Delta
- Barter for handmade treasures at tribal markets
- Encounter amazing wildlife on an African safari

Challenges for Prayer

Begin to pray daily for Botswana. Lift up the local church and its leaders as they minister to the people in their communities. Pray for those we will have the opportunity to share the Gospel with and for their continued relationship with the Lord and involvement in the church long after our team has left. Pray for spiritual freedom for the believers in Maun and physical freedom for the thousands of people in bondage, both those bound by addiction and sin. Prepare for the Lord to use you to shine the light of Jesus through the darkness in Botswana!