



BWABWATA NATIONAL PARK

Kwando Core Area



At a Glance

Fact File

Proclamation date: 1966 formerly Caprivi Game Park, re-proclaimed 2007

Size: approximately 1,280 km²

Permanent river: Kwando

Dry Season: April-October

Rainy Season: November-March

Rainfall: 550-600 mm per year

Average monthly temperature: 30°C

Hottest months: October to December

Best game viewing times: Early am /late pm

Pans: Mukwanyati, Malombe, Guesha (see map)

Health: The park is located within a high-risk malaria area. Precautions are essential.

Park visitor facilities: Susuwe Park Headquarters, Nambwa Campsite, Mashi Crafts Trading Post, Mashambo Craft Centre, Kongola service station and shop, Mafwe Traditional Village, Susuwe Island Lodge, Mazambala Island Lodge, Namushasha River Lodge.

Natural features

The Kwando river system with its floodplains, associated grasslands and riparian forests. Deciduous woodlands found on low, vegetated sand dunes with old drainage lines (omiramba) in between. Old dunes and interdune valleys vegetated by combretum and acacia species.

Vegetation

Broad-leafed Kalahari woodland with trees such as the Zambezi teak and false mopane in the sandy areas, Camel-thorn and Leadwood in the omiramba and reeds and papyrus on the floodplains, which are lined with trees such as the Jackal-berry, Mangosteen, Knob-thorn and Fan palm.

Wildlife

Large concentrations of elephant and buffalo; also sable and roan antelope, waterbuck, impala, kudu, giraffe and wildebeest. Main predators are lion, leopard, cheetah and hyena. One of the last refuges of the African wild dog in Namibia. Common reedbuck, red lechwe, sitatunga and hippo are seen along the river. Birds include Wattled Crane, Western banded Snake Eagle, Wood Owl, Narina Trogon, Cape Parrot, and both Red-billed and Yellow-billed Oxpecker.

Five things to do

- Find red lechwe, sitatunga and reedbuck on the flood plains 5km south of the park entrance
- Enjoy the mature Kalahari woodland set between the omiramba that diagonally cross the strip. Nearly two hundred kinds of plants, shrubs, trees and fruits, complement the wildlife and beautiful landscapes, and rare antelope species such as roan, sable and tsessebe.
- Tick the rare Narina Trogon, Racket-tailed Rollers, Coppery Sunbird, Emerald Cuckoo, Wattled Cranes, Long-toed Lapwing, African Crakes and African Hobby off your bird list
- Rest and relax on the wooden platform at Nambwa campsite and listen to the varied calls from the nearly 600 species of birds and abundant wildlife including lion, leopard, wild dog, hyaena, lechwe and sitatunga living there.
- Take a leisurely drive to Horseshoe oxbow lake and other lagoons formed on the Kwando River for sundowners and wait for the elephants to come down to drink.



Tips for your comfort and safety

- Engage 4x4 on all sandy tracks to reduce the formation of corrugations
- Be aware of deep sections of sand on the road to Nambwa Campsite especially if towing a trailer
- Before you enter the park, make sure you have sufficient petrol, water and other supplies.
- There are no goods and services in the park.

Bwabwata forms a crucial transboundary link for wildlife migration between Angola, Botswana, Namibia and Zambia and for seasonal dispersal to and from the rivers



