



Country Profile: Botswana

Botswana is a country in southern Africa with a stable democratic government and a growing economy. Facilities for tourism are widely available. Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on Botswana for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Botswana
Continent:	Africa
Capital City:	Gaborone
Boundary Countries:	Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Gaborone Private Hospital Botswana Adventist Medical Services, Kanye Hospital, Maun Hospital, Nyangabgwe Hospital, Princess Marina Hospital
Main Cities:	Gaborone, Kasane, Kanye, Maun, Francistown
Country Size:	600,370 sq km
Population:	1,639,833

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Setswana 78.2%, Kalanga 7.9%, Sekgalagadi 2.8%, English 2.1% (official), other 8.6%, unspecified 0.4%
Currency:	Botswanan Marka (BAM)
Predominant Religions:	Christian 71.6%, Badimo 6%, other 1.4%, unspecified 0.4%, none 20.6%
National Holidays:	Independence Day (Botswana Day), 30 September (1966)
Economic Status:	Botswana has maintained one of the world's highest economic growth rates since independence in 1966. Through fiscal discipline and sound management, Botswana has transformed itself from one of the poorest countries in the world to a middle-income country with a per capita GDP of \$11,200 in 2006. Two major investment services rank Botswana as the best credit risk in Africa.
Security:	Botswana Defense Force (includes an air wing)
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy Gaborone Embassy Drive Government Enclave Gaborone, Botswana Phone: (+267) 395-3982

Major Airports:	Airports: 85, Airports w/paved runways: 10 Kasane Airport, Botswana (BBK/FBKE) PO Box 349, Kasane, BOTSWANA Tel: +267 650136 Fax: +267 650174, +267 650598, +267 650420 Customs Tel: +267 650175 Customs Hours: Summer 04:00-16:30 UTC, Winter 04:30-16:00 UTC Gaborone Airport, Botswana (GBE/FBSK) PO Box 250, Gaborone, BOTSWANA Tel: +267 351191, +267 371397 Fax: +267 304557/9, +267 353709
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