

G A M E P L A N A F R I C A  
*Journeys of a Lifetime*



**THE GREAT WILDERNESS  
JOURNEY**  
*A Discoverer Exploration*

**10 nights/11days**

## The Great Wilderness Journey

### *A Discoverer Exploration*

10 nights/11 days



**Your Journey:** This Journey takes the time to explore Botswana's contrasts and extremes in prime areas where few people travel. You will experience a nostalgic camping/lodge safari that recreates the sense of a game-viewing adventure reminiscent of the times of the great African explorers. You will have time to experience the world-famous Victoria Falls on the Zambian side of the Zambezi River and explore Botswana's scenic northern areas: from the blue-green wetlands of the Okavango Delta to the diverse and wildlife-rich Linyanti and Chobe River systems. Accommodation includes a combination of Wilderness Safaris camps and fully serviced camping, all in private concession areas.

**Your guide:** Explorations are led by highly skilled and qualified professional guides with an incredible passion for the natural regions they work in. Sharing the adventure and guiding you on this journey of discovery combined with their vast knowledge of the natural world, history and culture are their professions and personal hobby. Many of our guides are also skilled photographers and can assist you in taking away amazing wildlife photographs. Your guide will host you for the duration of safari, providing you with a consistent, detailed interpretation that is shaped to your specific interests.

#### **Did you know?**

- We have exclusive access to wilderness areas in the Okavango Delta, Linyanti/Chobe and Victoria Falls.
- Deluxe camping in two prime areas ensures holistic guiding and detailed insights to habitats and wildlife in the area.
- You will experience an exceptionally diverse range of activities: walks, day and night wildlife viewing – both water and land-based.
- The transfers between locations are diverse and exciting and include water, land and air.
- The Discoverer camps will take you back to the era of Africa's exploration. Pure linens of heavy cottons, separate flushing toilets and shower areas all add to the atmosphere, while simplistic comforts and amenities are elegantly provided.

## ITINERARY

### **Day 1: Toka Leya Camp – Victoria Falls – Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park Wilderness Safaris – Classic Camp**

On arrival at Harry Mwanga Nkumbula International Airport in Livingstone, you will be met by a Wilderness Explorations representative and transferred directly to the Victoria Falls for a guided tour before proceeding to Toka Leya. Enjoy great views from camp of the mighty Zambezi River and some of its islands.



Set on the western sector of the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, Toka Leya Camp perches on the banks of the precipitating Zambezi River. Only 12km upstream from the world-renowned Victoria Falls, the camp is well placed for you to explore the scenic and vibrant region. Limiting our footprint on this pristine land, wooden walkways snake between the 12 spacious en-suite safari-style tents. You will feel safe and comfortable in your tastefully decorated room with an expansive wooden deck looking out at the mighty river – often presenting the sight of rambling elephants, grunting pods of hippo and idle crocodiles. Under a canopy of shady trees, the camp's dining, lounge and bar areas plus infinity pool, offer ample space for you to relax.

#### **Did you know?**

- Toka Leya has a worm farm and indigenous nursery so as to rehabilitate the plant species of the area.
- The densely vegetated islands in front of camp form part of the braided channel of the Zambezi River.
- 'Mosi-oa-Tunya' is the local name for Victoria Falls, literally meaning 'the smoke that thunders' which accurately describes the rising spray that can be seen 30km away.
- Activities include Victoria Falls tours, game drives, river cruises, catch-and-release fishing, guided walks and adventure activities.
- The park offers good wildlife viewing of buffalo, giraffe, zebra, impala and white rhino.
- The prolific bird life includes the African Finfoot, a rarity elsewhere, yet here a resident.

**Included:** All meals, daily activities and local drinks (excluding premium import brands)

### **Days 2 – 4: Linyanti Discoverer Camp, Linyanti Concession**

After a full breakfast we transfer by road back to Harry Mwanga Nkumbula International Airport, for our light aircraft transfer to Kasane. Flying over the Kazangula border, a point where the four countries of Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Namibia meet, we stop at Kasane for a river cruise.

### **Chobe River boat cruise, Chobe National Park**

Enjoy a leisurely shaded boat cruise along the Chobe River, with a light lunch, offering a unique opportunity to observe puku, enormous herds of elephant, numerous pods of hippo and large crocodiles, as well as other general game and diverse birdlife.

After the cruise, depart Kasane by air to the private Linyanti concession for your stay at Linyanti Discoverer Camp. The multiplicity of habitats in this area is a paradise for an incredible diversity of wildlife and bird species.



### **Linyanti Discoverer Camp, Linyanti Concession Wilderness Explorations**

Set in the 125,000-hectare Linyanti Concession bordering Chobe National Park, Linyanti Discoverer Camp is your base from which to explore this enormous wildlife-rich area. Unrivalled in its remoteness and space, the concession is bisected by an ancient watercourse – the now-flowing Savute Channel. Your innovative accommodation is in 6.3 metre x 3.5 metre (20.67 feet x 11.48 feet) walk-in wooden framed canvas sided tents. The tents are airy and designed to recreate the accommodation style of the early explorers, with richly coloured teak director chairs and minimalist interiors. Separate bedside tables with 12-volt reading lamps, canvas and wood wardrobes, bathrobes, comfortable beds and mirrors are provided. Private, en-suite separate toilet and showers form part of the structure. Paraffin hurricane lanterns and a crackling campfire set the ambience in the evening, while fresh, sumptuous meals are usually prepared around a fire by warm and friendly camp staff.

#### **Did you know?**

- The landscape of the Linyanti is diverse, from floodplains to open dry-land savannah and woodland with sweeping views.
- Wildlife includes the seldom-seen sitatunga that can be spotted in the waterways, as well as rare roan and sable antelope, plains game and of course their predators, the lion and leopard – with the endangered wild dog as an incredible bonus.
- Activities include game drives in the private northern sector of the concession, exploring a range of habitats, from riverbanks to scrub and forest as well as a full-day excursion with lunch at a remote scenic setting.

**Included:** All meals, daily activities, limited laundry and local drinks (excluding premium import brands)

## **Days 5 – 7: Gomoti Tented Camp, Okavango Delta**

Transfer by light aircraft to the Santawani Concession and discover the varying habitats and wildlife of the area. Our accommodation here is in the semi-permanent Gomoti Tented Camp.



### **Gomoti Tented Camp - Santawani Concession Wilderness Explorations**

Gomoti Tented Camp lies in the centre of the private 6,000-hectare Santawani Concession, in the southeast corner of the Okavango Delta. The camp is nestled under large acacia trees in a diverse game-rich area. Most of the concession area comprises a mixed woodland habitat that gives way to open grasslands which can transform into floodplains in years of plentiful water.

Accommodation is in five 5.1 x 3 metre Savannah canvas tents, which are spacious and comfortable, designed to recreate the style of the early explorers, with richly-coloured teak director chairs and comfortable interiors. Separate bedside tables with 12-volt reading lamps, wooden-framed wardrobes, comfortable twin beds and mirrors are provided. A private, en-suite toilet and shower forms part of the structure. Enjoy the midday view from your director chairs, set under the shade of your veranda. Paraffin hurricane lanterns and a crackling campfire set the ambience in the evening, while fresh, sumptuous meals are prepared by your warm Explorations staff and served at a long table in the thatched dining area. An after-dinner digestif may be enjoyed around the fire or taken in the cosy lounge adjacent to the dining area.

#### **Did you know?**

- Activities focus around day and night game drives and nature walks.
- The alluvial sands in these areas are very fertile, resulting in good grass growth, which attracts a multitude of grazing animal species.
- Wildlife is plentiful and includes leopard, lion, wild dog, cheetah, giraffe, elephant and masses of general game.

**Included:** All meals, daily activities, limited laundry and local drinks (excluding premium import brands)

## **Days 8 – 10: Jacana Camp, Jao Concession or Xigera Camp, Xigera Concession, Okavango Delta**

Note: Jacana Camp or Xigera Camp will depend on the actual date of travel.

After breakfast we fly by light aircraft over the shimmering water-world of the Okavango Delta to Jacana Camp or Xigera Camp.

Situated in a permanently flooded area of the Delta, a stay here offers a true Delta experience.

**Option: Jacana Camp – Jao Concession  
Wilderness Safaris – Classic Camp**



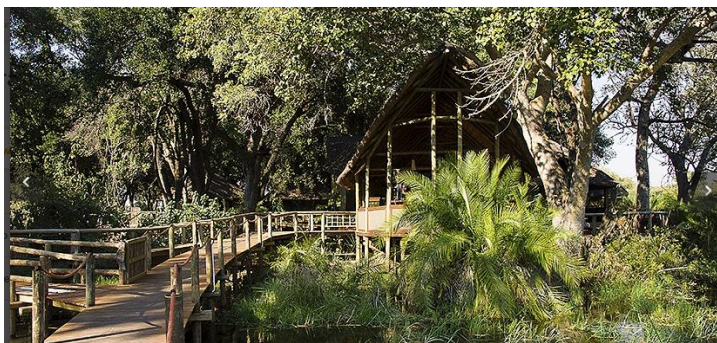
Set on a small island, Jacana is a true water camp, epitomising the seclusion of the Okavango Delta. Your accommodation will be one of the five Meru-style tents looking out over the expansive surrounding waters. The main dining area is elevated on a wooden deck and surrounded by big shady trees. Downstairs, curl up on one of our cosy couches or gaze out across the waters from the viewing deck. Lazy afternoons can be spent swinging on a hammock and cool evenings are spent sitting around the open fire. The traditional boma often sets the scene for outdoor dining under the stars. As a wonderland of water-based animal and bird life, Jacana begs to be explored.

**Did you know?**

- Jacana is involved in a lion monitoring project (tracking movements, social behaviours and conditions), as well as being the site for annual Children in the Wilderness programmes.
- The vegetation at Jacana varies from picturesque floodplains with lush palm islands and riparian forest to dryer parts covered in acacia and mopane woodland.
- Mekoro, boat trips, guided walks and game drives are usually on offer all year round. There are two platform hides in the concession.
- Water-loving red lechwe are in abundance, attracting big predators such as lion and leopard. Other game includes tsessebe, giraffe, elephant, hippo and crocodile, occasional sitatunga and regular spotted-necked otter.
- Birding is exceptional with large concentrations of endangered Wattled Crane, Slaty Egret and Lesser Jacana.

**Included:** All meals, daily activities, limited laundry and local drinks (excluding premium import brands)

**Option: Xigera Camp – Xigera Concession  
Wilderness Safaris – Classic Camp**



Nestled in a magnificent riverine forest, Xigera Camp embodies the essence of the Okavango Delta. The camp is found on the aptly-named 'Paradise Island,' surrounded by year-round water and lush vegetation. We invite you to stay in one of the ten beautifully furnished en-suite tented rooms offering views over a seasonal floodplain and small lagoon. You will enjoy meals and drinks in the lounge and dining area overlooking the flowing channel or under the stars in our traditional African boma. During long lazy afternoons, take a plunge in the pool or soak up the sun on a lounger. Surrounded by spectacular wilderness, Xigera Camp will give you a feeling of wellbeing far from the hubbub of modern living.

#### **Did you know?**

- Xigera Camp donates a portion of each bed-night charge to the Motswe Wa Tsholofelo Orphan Day-care Centre in Maun.
- The camp is 100% solar-powered.
- Your activities at Xigera typically include mokoro and motorboat outings. Game drives are seasonal, dependent on the water levels.
- Mammal sightings include the water-loving red lechwe, spotted-necked otter, elephant and tsessebe along with the elusive sitatunga. Predators include leopard and spotted hyaena.
- A delight for birdwatchers; expect to see Pel's Fishing-Owl, African Skimmer, Greater Swamp Warbler and Wattled Crane.

**Included:** All meals, daily activities, limited laundry and local drinks (excluding premium import brands)

#### **Day 11: Transfer to Maun Airport**

Bid farewell to the adventure as we transfer by light aircraft to Maun Airport.

### **2016 Costs**

The Great Wilderness Journey operates with a maximum of 8 guests on each safari.

**Prices for travel May 1 – May 31 and  
November 1 – November 11**

**US\$10,185.00 per person sharing  
US\$575.00 single supplement**

**Prices for travel June 1 – October 31**

**US\$11,062.00 per person sharing  
US\$666.00 single supplement**

#### **SAFARI INCLUDES:**

- Accommodation on a per person sharing basis
- All meals from dinner on Day 1 to the end of the scheduled safari
- A reasonable amount of soft drinks, mineral water, fruit juice, house wine and beer, as well as local spirits such as gin and Amarula while on safari
- National Park fees
- Laundry
- Road transfers
- Scheduled activities
- All internal charters on a seat-rate basis, as specified in the itinerary

#### **SAFARI EXCLUDES:**

- Flights (other than specified in the detailed safari itinerary)
- Visas

- Compulsory comprehensive travel insurance
- All relevant entry and departure government taxes
- All personal purchases (including curios, spirit liquors, telephone calls etc.),
- Gratuities
- Optional extra activities
- Pre and post safari tours
- All travel arrangements before or after the safari
- Any new Government taxes, levies, fuel or industry increases which are beyond our control