



# FACTSHEET



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### INTRODUCTION

Xobega Island Camp is a piece of paradise in the great water wonderland that is the Okavango Delta. Just off the mainland of Moremi Game Reserve, Xobega (or Gcobega) Island is ideally located and easily accessible for self-drivers (4 x 4 only), and what it offers can't be beaten. A bird-lover's paradise, and an adventurer's dream, Xobega has 10 light Meru-style canvas tents equipped with twin stretcher beds and en suite, open-air bathrooms. Everything about this camp is eco-friendly, from the solar-power, to bucket showers, and chemical toilets.

Guests arrive at the tree-filled island via boat and are welcomed to this simple safari. Hippos rule the waters around the island, lions are heard across the water, and a Pel's fishing owl takes up residence in the trees.

### AT A GLANCE

- Located on a private island in the Okavango Delta, a 1.5 hour boat ride from Xakanaxa Boat station
- Affordable Botswana safari experience in canvas tents with a rustic, simplistic style
- 10 Meru-style safari tents with en suite open-air bathrooms
- Eco-friendly - solar power, heated bucket showers, chemical toilets
- The many trees on the island offer each tent a shady, private position
- Twice daily boat cruises through the Delta waterways
- Professional guides and warm hosting making guests feel very comfortable at all times

- Unfenced camp with wildlife free to roam throughout
- Birder's paradise
- Fantastic destination for groups and families looking for wilderness and adventure

### FACILITIES

- 10 Meru-style safari tents with en suite open-air bathrooms
- Bucket showers, standing canvas wash basins, and chemical eco-toilets
- Beds with swags and full linen in each tent
- Bedside table with insect repellent and water glasses
- Solar-powered lighting in the tents
- Two safari chairs under the small canopy forming 'veranda' at each tent
- Hammocks for siesta
- A dining tent with dining table, chairs, and a tea and coffee station
- Two lounge gazebos in camp, complete with wicker furniture
- A clearing with central campfire forming an open-air boma for evening relaxation

### ACTIVITIES

- Morning and afternoon boat cruises around the Delta islands and through the hippo-filled channels
- Birdwatching from the camp and boat
- Sunset boat cruises through the Okavango's channels
- Mokoro safaris (optional on transfers in and out of Mboma Boat Station)
- Photography opportunities are plentiful



### A TYPICAL DAY AT XOBEGA ISLAND CAMP

Boating safaris are the main attraction at Xobega Island, while mokoro safaris are easily organised. Daily routines change according to guests' itineraries; however, the below is a guideline of day-to-day activity:

- **06h00** Wake up call followed by coffee and rusks at the dining tent
- **06h30** Depart for 3-4 hour boat cruise including a coffee stop
- **10h30** Return to camp with hot bucket showers ready and waiting
- **11h30** Brunch is served in the dining tent, followed by afternoon siesta
- **16h00** Depart for afternoon boat cruise
- **18h30** Return to camp with hot bucket showers ready and waiting
- **19h30** Dinner is served at camp, followed by campfire chatter

### LOCATION

Xobega (Gcobega) Island Camp is located on a small island in the Okavango Delta and the camp is accessed by boat from Xakanaxa Boat station in the Moremi Game Reserve. The Okavango Delta offers spectacular sightings of big game, magnificent birdlife and extraordinary natural beauty. This location is easily reached by self-drivers (4 x 4 only) travelling through the Moremi Game Reserve, and to Xakanaxa Boat station, where they will be picked up and transferred to Xobega.

### HOW TO GET THERE

Xobega Island is accessed via 1.5 hour boat ride from Xakanaxa Boat station in the Moremi Game Reserve, easily accessible to self-driving (4 x 4 only) guests.

From Moremi South Gate, follow the sign post straight to Xakanaxa through the Mopane forest (42km). Drive straight at the junction after the Wildlife office (sign posted) to Xakanaxa boat station.

### CHILD POLICY

Regrettably, no children under 12 years old can be accommodated at Xobega Island Camp.

### GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

#### Weather

The climate in Botswana brings very hot, dry periods (September, October), and also very wet seasons (December-February). Winter (June, July, August) packs cold nights and mild, dry days, while November to February is hot and wet.

Temperatures in summer soar as high as 40°C bringing warm nights and humidity levels fluctuating between 50% and 80%. The average annual rainfall is 450mm and most of it falls between December and March in the form of heavy afternoon thunderstorms.

In contrast, the winter nights can drop to barely above freezing in the Delta and the desert, although daytime temperatures at this time of year are mild to warm.



### Wildlife

Botswana is a wildlife paradise, with elephants roaming in high numbers, hippos occupying every waterway, buffalo gathering en masse to drink from the waterholes, zebra migrations, red lechwe bounding through rivers, giraffe touching the tree tops, and warthogs shovelling the earth.

Moremi is a known wildlife hotspot, and is a protected area of the Okavango Delta. Lion, leopard, cheetah, wild dog, and spotted and brown hyena, are some of the top predator species that are frequently seen.

The birdlife in Botswana is no exception to the fantastic collection of wild creatures that call this country home. The many waterways of the Okavango Delta and Moremi create a habitat for many water birds, while raptors soar overhead, and melodious larks disguise themselves in the scrub.

### Malaria

Before travelling, guests are encouraged to consult their local doctors on anti-malarial medication and preparation, however a repellent stick or spray is effective and should be utilised.

## WHAT TO PACK

The climate in Botswana brings very hot, dry periods and also very wet seasons. Winter (June, July, August) packs cold nights and mild, dry days. Depending on what time of year you travel, you will need certain essentials.

- Throughout the year, we recommend packing lightweight, neutral-coloured clothing with short sleeves
- Bring sun protection in the form of sunblock, sun hats, and glasses.
- Scarfs, jackets and gloves are needed for early mornings on the boat, especially in winter.
- Comfortable walking shoes are essential, as is sun protection in the form of hats, sunglasses and sun block.
- Bring along cameras, binoculars and recording gadgets to keep a record of the many wildlife sightings.

