



WILDERNESS PRODUCT

NEWS & UPDATES

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BOTSWANA

November 2023

NEWSFLASH

- The OM System Camera Journey experience and binoculars are no longer available in our camps and photo hubs.
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GENERAL REMINDERS**Wilderness Tubu and Little Tubu rebuild**

- Kindly note the revision of operational plans due to full camp closure for the period 01 November 2023 to 31 May 2024 (inclusive) for a complete rebuild.
- Guests with confirmed bookings will be hosted at Wilderness Kwetsani, with rates honoured.
- Should Wilderness Jacana be the alternative, whether on confirmed or provisional bookings, these will be requested on the lower rate.
- In the event that Wilderness Kwetsani and Wilderness Jacana are fully booked, the use of Wilderness Jao may be possible in certain instances. However, this will require special authorisation from Botswana Operations regarding availability and rates.
- On other occasions, as a special exception only, Wilderness Qorokwe may be utilised. However, this will also require pre-authorisation from Botswana Operations regarding availability and rates.
- Flying remains unchanged as all alternatives lie within Area 02 Okavango Delta.

Wilderness Mombo – Ask-for-Space

RARA has placed Mombo inventory in the Window on an ask-for-space basis for the full camp for 11, 12 and 14 December 2023 for annual maintenance. Do note that the camp had already been closed for December 13 for year-end festivities. There are no affected bookings on these dates.

REGIONAL UPDATES**BOTSWANA****Water level update**

- The Queen Silvia barge activities are not currently available at Wilderness King's Pool due to the seasonal low water levels.
 - As at the end of October, boating ceased at all camps in the Jao Reserve. However, mokoro remains a possibility.

Khwai River Lodge Airstrip

- Belmond Safaris' Khwai River Lodge airstrip is closed off to operators, with the exception of Mack Air. This took effect on 04 October 2023.
- Wilderness Air has been granted permission to use Natural Selection's Khwai Private Reserve airstrip, on condition of increased landing fees – from USD20.00 per person to USD 45.00 per person.

Camps that were serviced by Khwai River Lodge include:

- Khwai Leadwood
- Machaba and Little Machaba

- Sango Safari Camp

From Khwai Private Reserve, timings are approximately:

- 40 minutes to Khwai Leadwood and Khwai Lediba
- 2 hours to Machaba and Little Machaba
- 45 minutes to Sango