

It is hard to believe that we are almost in October. The arrival of the migratory birds is a sign that we are nearing the end of the year. We are looking ahead to 2016 and to launching some exciting new Explorations trips. We have listened to what you, our partners, have told us and are pleased to announce the launch of our new Botswana Exploration, the **Okavango Channels and Plains**.

### **OKAVANGO CHANNELS AND PLAINS (January to April 2016)**

This privately-guided, 6-night safari takes in some of the finest game-viewing areas of the Okavango at Gomoti together with the iconic water experiences of Xigera. Located in the Santawani Concession in the south-eastern Okavango Delta, Gomoti is an area renowned for its great game-viewing. The area is dominated by acacia woodlands interspersed with open plains. It is home to large numbers of general game, which in turn attract high concentrations of lions, leopard and wild dog.

Xigera is renowned for its fantastic water experiences. A stay here will give you the opportunity to explore the channels of the Okavango Delta. The main floodwaters only start arriving at Xigera around April, which means that a big part of the concession is also accessible by vehicle.

Summer is a spectacular time of year to be in Botswana as the migratory birds, dark skies and lush green terrain create an explosion of colour. The images below were captured in the summer months at Gomoti by Dave Luck, one of our Explorations guides, showcasing the dramatic images that one can capture at this time of year.

The Okavango Channels and Plains Safari will be sold to a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 8 pax.



To view more of Dave's Summer Season shots at Gomoti, visit <a href="http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/blog/safari-albums#gallery-1577\_Summer+days+at+Gomoti">http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/blog/safari-albums#gallery-1577\_Summer+days+at+Gomoti</a>

# **OKAVANGO CHANNELS AND PLAINS ITINERARY OVERVIEW**

On arrival at Maun International Airport, you will be met by your Wilderness Explorations guide and transferred by road (approximately 2h30) to the Santawani Concession. On this drive, you will pass through some small villages giving you an insight into the way of life in rural Botswana. The last part of the drive will be through conservation areas where you will have the opportunity to view wildlife.

# Days 1 - 3: Gomoti Tented Camp, Okavango Delta

Discover the mixed woodlands and open grasslands of the Santawani Concession. Gomoti Tented Camp is the ideal base from which to discover the area. Activities include day and night game drives and guided bush walks.



# Days 4 – 6: Xigera Camp, Xigera Concession, Okavango Delta

After breakfast we fly by light aircraft over the shimmering water-world of the Okavango Delta to Xigera, where we will have the opportunity to explore the channels of the world-renowned Okavango Delta by boat and mokoro.



Day 7: Transfer by light aircraft from Xigera to Maun Airport for your onward arrangements.

## **DEPARTURE DATES FROM MAUN**

10 January 2016 7 February 2016 20 March 2016 7 April 2016

Please note: The safari departs Maun after the arrival of the Air Botswana and SA Airlink flights.

#### **RATES**

The Nett rate for the Okavango Channels and Plains Safari is <u>USD2 865</u> per person. There is no single supplement.

Inclusions on the Safari

- · All accommodation as specified in the itinerary overview above
- All meals (three course dinners)
- · All soft drinks, beer, fruit juice, mineral water and house wine, as well as small selection of local liquors
- Camp activities
- Road transfer from Maun to Gomoti Tented Camp
- · Seat-in-plane light aircraft transfers (including departure taxes where applicable) as specified
- · Limited laundry is available, all smalls to be done by guests

#### Exclusions on the Safari

- Visas
- · All relevant entry and departure government stipulated fees/taxes and unexpected increases thereto
- All personal purchases, including curios, premium brand liquors, telephone calls, etc.
- Pre and post tours before arrival at the starting point of the safari
- · Optional extra activities/services not included
- All flights (other than specified)
- Gratuities

For more information on this exciting Exploration, chat to your Journey Specialist.

# **DISCOUNTED RATES FOR 2015 EXPLORATIONS**

We still have availability on some of our 2015 departures. With this in mind, we are offering discounted rates as follows for trips still running in 2015 on the Great Wilderness Journey, Botswana Summer Encounter, Diverse Namibia and Desert Dune Safari.

Valid for new bookings only and no conversion of existing bookings.

Please click here for more information on these discounted rates.

To view our availability report for the remainder of 2015, click here

Until next time,

The Explorations Team

For more info, please email explorations@wilderness.co.za