



## TRANS OKAVANGO DELTA



This is a mobile boating safari from the top of the delta (the “Panhandle”) to Maun. It is for those looking for a bit of adventure, perhaps not for first time safari visitors. We traverse the length of the flooded delta (250km) by safari boat, camping on remote islands, usually on an “expedition” style basis.

You should think about this type of adventure if you have already been on a few safaris before – we won’t see all the big game while out on the water – it is more about the experience and the ability to see the delta in its entirety and how it changes as the flood proceeds slowly towards Maun.

Each itinerary is different and meticulously planned. One needs to book and plan well in advance as the “flood” that pulses through the delta annually, needs to be predicted for the boats to be able to pass through the full reaches of the river. Each year / flood is different, but typically we can do this between May and August. We do these trips annually (sometimes just for fun) and follow the dynamics of the flood passionately – ask us for advice on when to book.

Most Trans Okavango Safaris start at Sepopa – this is a 5 hour drive north of Maun.



### **Trans-Okavango Adventure**

Usually done over a six day period, this trip is not for the fainthearted and the memories you take with you will certainly never be forgotten. Hippos, crocs and problematic reed blockages can cause planned itineraries to vary somewhat on these expeditions.

#### **A typical Trans-Okavango itinerary**

##### **Day 1:**

We begin the trip in Maun by driving you in our mini-bus to Sepopa in north western Botswana.

We depart at 6am and arrive in Sepopa at 10am.

The mini-bus is comfortable, air-conditioned and has ample space for you and your luggage.

By 11am you would be on your way on the boat.

A supply boat with all the equipment, provisions and 2 staff members will have set off ahead of you to make camp.

On the first day we go a short way to Ikoga as it is good to spend the first afternoon acquainting ourselves and getting used to the environment.

If Tiger fishing is of interest then this is the part of the Okavango in which to try your luck.



### **Day 2:**

On the second day you will pass through the remainder of the “pan-handle” part of the Okavango. Distance needs to be covered so most of the day is spent cruising down winding papyrus channels punctuated by birding, fishing and a picnic lunch.

In the late afternoon we reach “Masupitsila” in the Jedibe area of the Okavango where we find our camp set up for us.



### **Day 3 and 4:**

Part of your Trans Okavango takes you from Masupatsila to Chao again a long way but now you start watching the scenery and vegetation change dramatically.

You are now in the central Okavango, you have left the winding papyrus channels and deep water.

You are now in the wide open flood plains teeming with wildlife.

I would recommend 2 nights in Chao in order to get in a good early morning and late afternoon guided game walk and perhaps spend midday out of the sun relaxing over lunch in a spectacular campsite.



### **Day 5:**

The length of river from Chao down to Nxaraga is arguably the most amazing day of boating the Okavango has to offer (especially in the mid-August to mid-October period). This day can be enjoyed at a slow pace to do justice to the bird life, wildlife and scenery. There are a lot of places to stop for a picnic and short game walk or two.

Arrive at Nxaraga in the late afternoon. This is a wonderful campsite set on the edge of a huge lagoon and has good game walking opportunities.



### **Day 6:**

Start the last morning in the Okavango with a long game walk on the southern tip of Chiefs Island, getting back to camp mid-morning for a huge cooked brunch to see you through the rest of the day. Spent the afternoon cruising from Nxaraga to Maun with some game viewing on the way.



### **Trans Okavango Experiences**

- Pack light – space is limited on our boats.
- Be prepared to see almost no one for several days – it is very wild out there!
- Walk on remote delta islands looking for big game and sought after birds
  - Spot a Pel's Fishing Owl
  - Fish for tiger fish
  - Get "lost," and find yourself!
- Swim in crystal clear waters (only where it is safe, obviously)

Please note: For safety we provide life jackets and guides are equipped with a satellite phone. All guests are linked with a Swiss-style helicopter rescue service.

