

OKAVANGO DELTA SAFARIS

ODDBALLS ENCLAVE

LELOBU SAFARIS
2023



Okavango Delta Fly-in Safaris

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Light aircraft transfers. We personally meet all guests at Maun Airport
- Accommodation
- All Meals
- Teas/ coffees and snacks
- Drinks (soft drinks, water, beers, select wines and select spirits)
- Laundry
- Activities
- Government taxes and park fees

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THE AREA

We will meet you at Maun Airport, introduce you to your pilot before you depart on an amazing 25min scenic flight to Oddballs Enclave deep in the Okavango. Oddballs' Enclave is situated on the edge of Chief's Island, deep in the heart of the Okavango Delta,. All activities are led by men from the local communities. Enclave is situated on the edge of Chief's Island, deep in the heart of the Okavango Delta. The area is known to be one of the most magnificent permanent water sites in the Delta.

ABOUT ENCLAVE



The Enclave is on a small island just off the southwestern edge of Chief's Island, deep in the heart of the Okavango, and bordering Moremi Game Reserve. The camp is accessible only by light aircraft. On arrival, you will be welcomed to the island by your private guide, who will remain your guide for the duration of your stay.

The guest areas have a variety of comfortable seating and a raised viewing deck that overlooks the sweep of the Delta – the perfect place to watch the sun or moon rise and view whatever wildlife may be visiting. Meals are enjoyed on the deck with spectacular views across the floodplains to distant island forests.



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ACCOMMODATION

Oddballs' Enclave can accommodate a maximum of 10 guests, in five twin or double bedded mini-Meru tents, making it a classic and intimate camp. The tents are on elevated wooden decks, each with a semi-detached private bathroom with an al fresco bucket shower, and hot and cold running water.





ACTIVITIES

The Enclave offers only walking and mekoro excursions (s. mokoro) the traditional dug-out canoe of the swamps. Your private guide (maximum of two guests per guide) was born and raised in the area. He owns his mokoro (the genuine wooden article, no plastic replicas for us) and will take you out in it in the early mornings and afternoons, to nearby islands where he will walk with you to view game and the spectacular landscape that is the Okavango. On request, the camp will pack a picnic lunch for you, allowing you to stay out the whole day. There are also optional visits to the local ba Yei Village (your guides home).

ACTIVITIES

Walking unarmed amongst the full range of Africa's wildlife is an experience that will live with you for a long time. Your guide has an intimate knowledge of this landscape and he will share his knowledge of the big and little things that with both surprise and astound you.

Enclave pays homage to a time when safaris were a real adventure. Enclave does not operate any generators or offer motorized activities (you will either be gliding through the waterways in a tradition wooden hand-made mokoro, or you will be walking on your own two feet across the islands). Solar panels are used to power batteries and heat the water, and every little bit of waste is bagged and flown up and out of the Okavango altogether.





WILDLIFE

An incredible variety of species cohabit in the Okavango, from plants, animals, birds, insects and reptiles. Low nutrient levels mean that sheer numbers of different species are seen - few of Africa's wilderness areas can boast the diversity the Okavango can. Desert and wetland species exist side by side, elephant frolic in the water while the cats, small and large, grit their teeth and take the plunge when they feel they must. You will also certainly see baboons cavorting, crocodiles basking and hippo frolicking

ACCESS

Due to the remote location, Oddballs Enclave is only accessible by light aircraft. The approximate 30 minute flight from Maun allows for you fly over the Okavango Delta and experience the intricate waterways and floodplains from bird-eye level. This adds so much to your experience, as you start and end the in the same way - with a great view.



OVERNIGHT CAMPING

After spending at least one night at Oddballs', acclimatizing, you will set off for a minimum of two nights, and for as many as you like, into the Okavango in a dug-out canoe with your camping equipment and guide. The peace and tranquility, the regular and soporific thrust of your guides long *ngashi*, by which you are propelled, the gentle rustle of water and lily-pads, the crystal clear water beneath you, the warm sun overhead – all these will frame the many sensations that will flood through you as you make your gentle progress.





As you thread your way through floodplains fringed with islands, ancient trees will mark your passage, as will tiny reed-frogs, imperious fish eagles, and a host of other living creatures, large and small. Bee-eaters hawk from the reed-beds, red lechwe will pause in their grazing to observe you, hippo will grunt in the lagoons, and the crocodiles you don't see will see you.

As the day passes your guide will select an island to camp on. Beaching the dug-out he will assist with the erection of your tent, the gathering of firewood, the collection of water, and the general establishment of your campsite in a spot conducive to your safety and comfort. As the afternoon mellows, he will take you for a walk over the island, viewing birds, game, and the spectacular scenery for which the Okavango is renowned. On your return in the evening the fire will be ready and with your guide's assistance, you will prepare your evening meal over the open coals, under a sky spangled with stars.





An early rise the following morning, some light refreshment and another exploratory walk will be followed by a late breakfast and a siesta, or perhaps a chance to read or research some of the fascinating things you have seen on your walks. And so, the days pass in idyllic and sometimes exciting fashion as the modern world fades and your priorities realign themselves with your soul, and the company of a man whose life and experience is so different from your own becomes a revelation in itself.

On the final day of your trail you will return to Oddballs' Enclave for a minimum of one night, and to acclimatize. This time, however, your frame of mind will be very different indeed, and rather than becoming used to the idea of a wild adventure, it is the challenges of civilisation that you will need to learn to face again.