

Riding Safari, Botswana

Itinerary

Safaris normally start at Kujwana camp which is situated on the Xudum River on a narrow island with a deep shady forest of ancient trees. The camp is situated south west of Chiefs Island in the Okavango Delta.

On arrival in camp you have an introductory talk about game viewing from horseback along with a demonstration on tack. If you have arrived by helicopter then you should be in time for an afternoon orientation ride. If transferring by road/boat, which does take longer, then there will not be time for an afternoon ride.

Your actual itinerary will depend on the season and the distribution of the water and game. Those staying five or seven nights will typically stay at Kujwana and Moklowane Camps. If staying for ten nights you may have one or two nights at a mobile fly camp which is set up especially for your safari (min. 4 guests).

During January riders only stay at main camp.

Each day in camp follows a similar pattern. Wake-up is one hour before dawn to ensure best game viewing through the early morning. You wade through lush green malapos that lead you from island to island. Surprise a timid bushbuck out of his dense cover on a heavily wooded island, or enjoy the herds of lechwe and giraffe moving through the open spaces. The Okavango Delta also hosts a variety of exceptional birdlife.



Breeding herds of elephant enjoy the security of the dense forest and travel from pan to pan leaving a lattice of large paths. Zebra, wildebeest and buffalo

are also attracted to this area. The small islands are linked by numerous hippo channels. Deep lagoons make this a good area for hippo and lechwe, as well as buffalo and other big game.



When not moving camp, you return to camp for lunch and an afternoon siesta. In the late afternoon you may have an afternoon game drive with sunset drinks or perhaps drift on the water in a mokoro (traditional canoe) past heavily scented water lilies and painted reed frogs. Later there might be the possibility of an evening night drive with a spot light to help see some of the nocturnal animals.



Moving from Kujwana to Moklowane Camps involves a long day of up to six hours in the saddle, covering a distance of some 30km. En route you stop for a picnic lunch provided by the support vehicle. You have the opportunity for a siesta on camp beds through the heat of the day before mounting up and riding into camp in time for sundowners.

Moklowane Camp is situated in the open flood plains which usually receive flood water three weeks earlier

than Kujwana camp. The vegetation consists of smaller palm islands and wide open spaces.

A morning game walk from Moklowane gives you the chance to explore the surroundings and experience the delta from a different perspective. After lunch and a siesta, an evening ride takes you into the Matsebi River system and features wide floodplains interspersed with Moklowane palms – a favourite food of elephant and baboon while the numerous buffalo prefer the dense Tsaro palms



On the seven night itinerary you normally you stay three nights at Moklowane Camp and then have a full day ride returning to Kujwana Camp and enjoying a picnic lunch en route.

If on a ten night safari, you would expect to spend one or two nights at 'fly camp' (minimum 4 guests), as well as nights at Kujwana and Moklowane. .