



JAO RESERVE

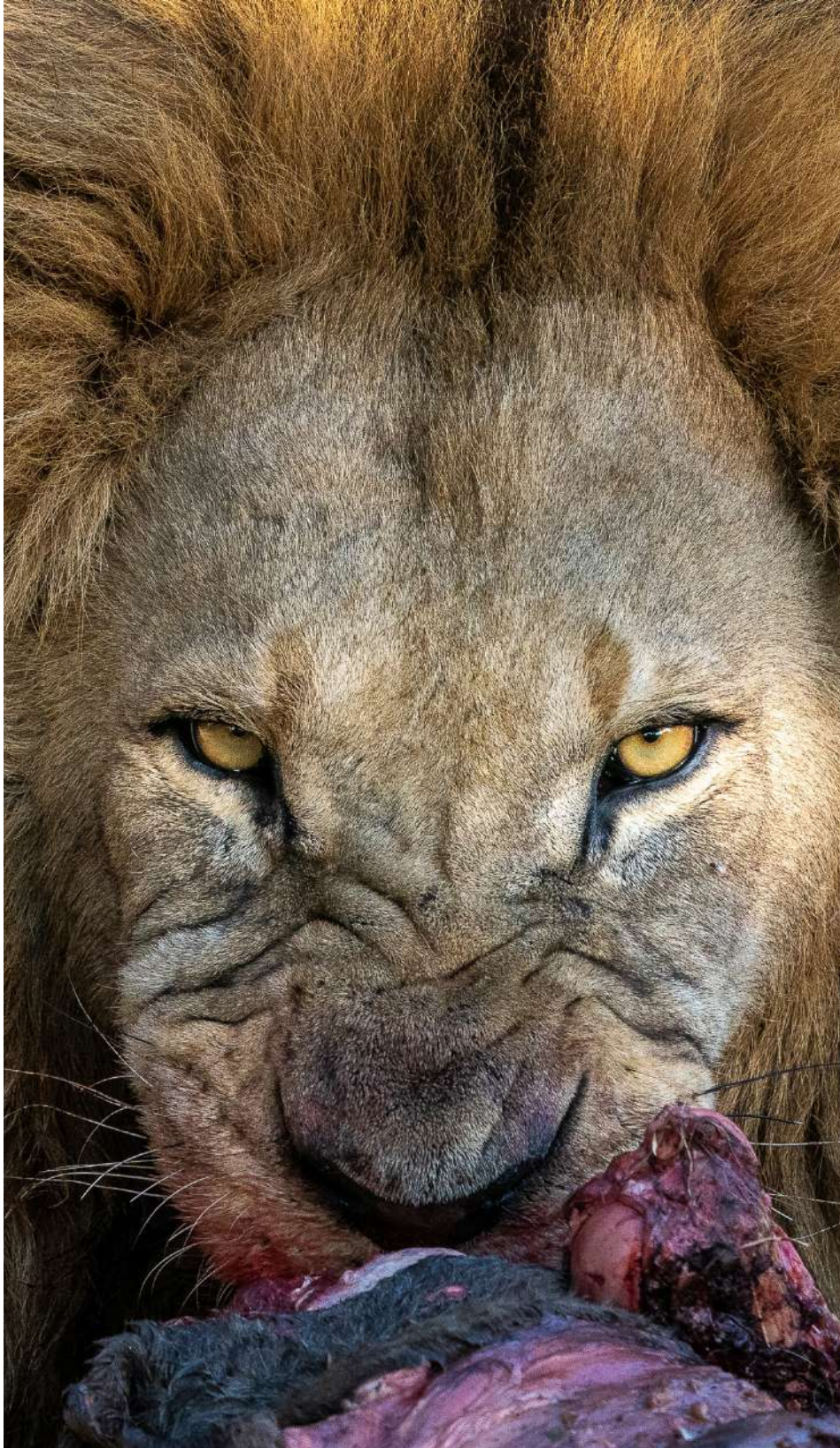


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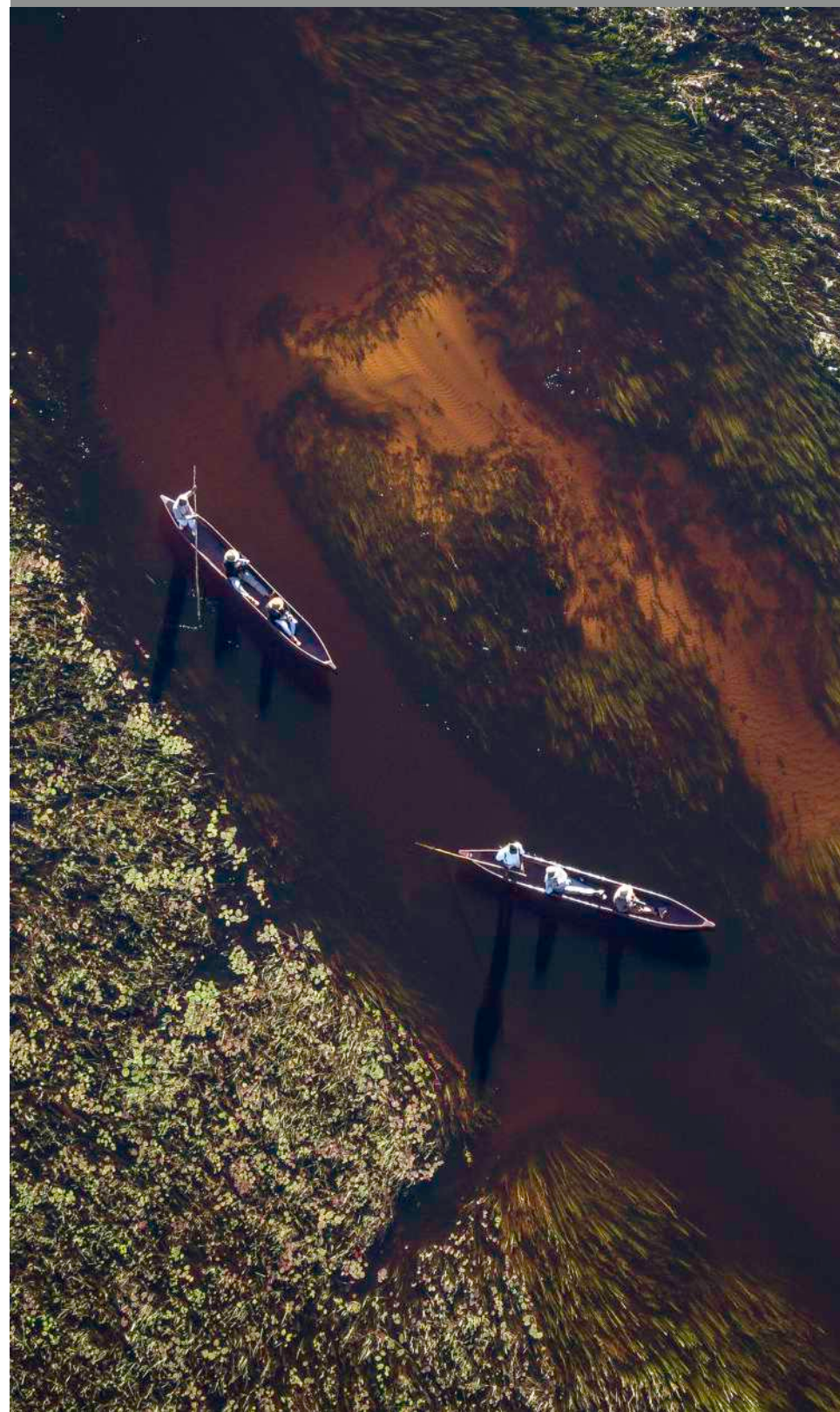
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ABOUT US

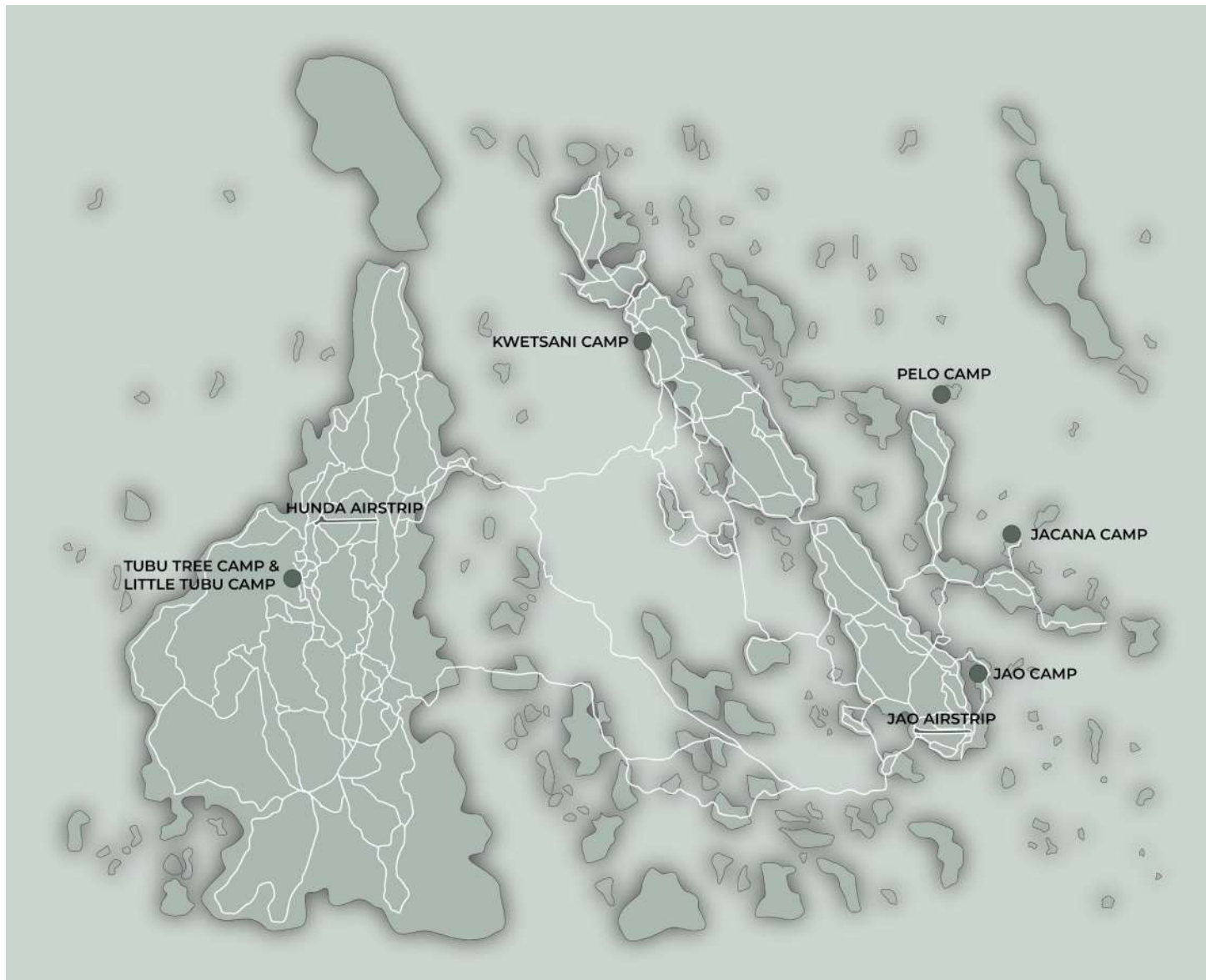
The Jao Reserve was developed by David and Cathy Kays, who founded Ngamiland Adventure Safaris in 1998, creating The Jao Reserve camps in the NG25 Okavango Concession. Having grown up in the Okavango Delta, David's deep connection to the land helped shape an unforgettable safari experience. In 2005, their son Martin Kays joined alongside their vision for the reserve, bringing fresh perspectives and passion to the venture. Today, we operate six exclusive camps across 60,000 hectares in The Jao Reserve, offering exceptional land and water-based game viewing, breathtaking landscapes, abundant wildlife, and adventure at every turn.

Botswana's vast, flat terrain is shaped by dynamic water systems, with nearly 80% of the country classified as semi-desert. Rainfall and tectonic shifts continuously reshape the landscape, bringing seasonal changes in water levels and wildlife movements. No two visits are ever the same, ensuring a fresh and exciting experience every time.

The Okavango Delta, spanning approximately 16,000 square kilometres, is one of the planet's most awe-inspiring ecosystems, teeming with wildlife. As the world's largest alluvial fan and a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site, its waters travel over 1,000 kilometres from the Angolan highlands before dispersing into the Kalahari sands. This natural wonder forms a stunning landscape of lagoons, seasonal floodplains, palm-dotted islands, and permanent swamps.



LOCATIONS



Everchanging floodplains of the Jao Reserve

Wildlife viewing here is rewarding, with incredible sightings both on land and water. Predators thrive in this area, with lions often seen wading through channels in pursuit of prey, alongside leopards, cheetahs, African wild dogs, and hyenas. Large herds of elephants and buffalo roam the landscape, while an array of antelope species, including the elusive sitatunga and the striking red lechwe, add to the region's diversity. The waterways are home to hippos and crocodiles, completing the rich wildlife experience.

Keep an eye out for over 400 bird species, including the iconic African fish eagle, the elusive Pel's fishing owl, Botswana's national bird - the kori bustard, and the vibrant lilac-breasted roller, the country's former national bird. Wildlife encounters in and around camp are not uncommon, offering unforgettable close-up experiences.

Experience the drama of the floodplains on a game drive, uncover hidden wonders on a guided nature walk, or navigate the waterways by delta boat or traditional mokoro, gliding silently through the reeds. For a truly spectacular perspective, take to the skies in a helicopter and witness the vast, intricate beauty of the Okavango from above.





JAO CAMP





Start your day with breakfast by a hippo-filled lagoon at dawn, or brunch by a shallow lagoon surrounded by grazing red lechwe. As the sun sets, dine among a herd of zebras beneath a sky ablaze with stars. Let every moment awaken your senses.

Where land and water merge in the heart of the Okavango, Jao Camp stands as a haven of elegance and sophistication. Nestled on its own secluded island, with the renowned Moremi Game Reserve to the east, it offers one of the most immersive and enriching experiences in the Delta.



JAO

Architectural masterpiece creating a striking yet harmonious retreat

This architectural masterpiece seamlessly blends natural and recycled materials - steel, wood, and glass - creating a striking yet harmonious retreat. Towering, open interiors invite light and the surrounding wilderness inside, offering magnificent views of the expansive floodplains from nearly every angle. The sheer serenity of this setting is sure to leave you in awe.



A haven of
elegance
and
sophistication



Nestled
on its own
secluded island



Sure to
leave you
in awe

Luxury reimaged on a beautiful Island in the Okavango Delta

Jao Camp is nestled on a remote island in the heart of the Okavango Delta, offering an exclusive and immersive safari experience. The camp features two spacious villas and five luxurious suites, thoughtfully designed to blend seamlessly with the surrounding landscape. Each open-plan suite includes a lounge, dressing area, main bedroom, en-suite facilities, a heating and air-cooling system as well as kitchenette and dining area. A private plunge pool provides the perfect retreat from the afternoon heat, offering awe-inspiring views of the nearby channel.

The main area boasts a striking modern design, complete with both indoor and outdoor fireplaces, lounge and dining areas. Guests can also explore the gallery, which houses a library, a curio shop, and a wine cellar featuring an impressive selection of South African wines. For relaxation, Jao Camp offers two spa rooms with a range of rejuvenating treatments, as well as a swimming pool and a fully equipped gym.





Jao provides both land and water- based safari experiences

With a landscape that transitions from winding waterways and serene lagoons to the dry grasslands of the Kalahari, Jao provides both land and water-based safari experiences, depending on the seasonal flood levels. Activities include seasonal mokoro excursions and boating, seasonal fishing, and day and night game drives, all set within one of the most picturesque concessions in the Delta.



Venture across the island in search of elephants, buffalo, lions, and leopards - Tubu Tree Camp is renowned for its sightings of these graceful big cats. Keep an eye out for African wild dogs, spotted hyenas, and an abundance of plains game, including giraffes, Burchell's zebras, and countless other fascinating species.

On guided nature walks, encounter an array of plains game, from Burchell's zebra and blue wildebeest to the swift tsessebe and journeys of giraffe.



Tucked within the treeline with sweeping views over the floodplains, Tubu Tree Camp sits on Hunda Island, the drier western part of the Jao Reserve. Explore the diverse landscapes of the Hunda floodplains, from the dry Kalahari sandveld and mopane woodlands to lush riverine forests, immersing yourself in a variety of unforgettable activities.



Bush luxury in one
of the Delta's most
diverse landscapes





Tubu Tree Camp (Rebuilt June 2024) is nestled on the western side of Hunda Island in the Jao Reserve, offering a secluded retreat in one of the Delta's most diverse landscapes. Elevated walkways weave through the canopy, connecting the traditional-style thatched main areas to eight private tents, each raised on a platform to capture breathtaking views of the surrounding floodplain. Every luxurious tent features a private front deck, an en-suite bathroom, and an outdoor shower, while a family unit includes two adjoining tents with separate bathrooms and a shared lounge. For ultimate relaxation, Tubu Tree now offers mobile spa treatments, ensuring you leave feeling refreshed and rejuvenated.

Ensuring you
leave feeling
refreshed and
rejuvenated.

The perfect
spot to unwind

The main dining and lounge areas are elevated among the trees, with a cozy fireplace beneath the sprawling boughs of a marula tree. Below, the pool deck provides uninterrupted views of the ever-changing floodplain, making it the perfect spot to unwind.

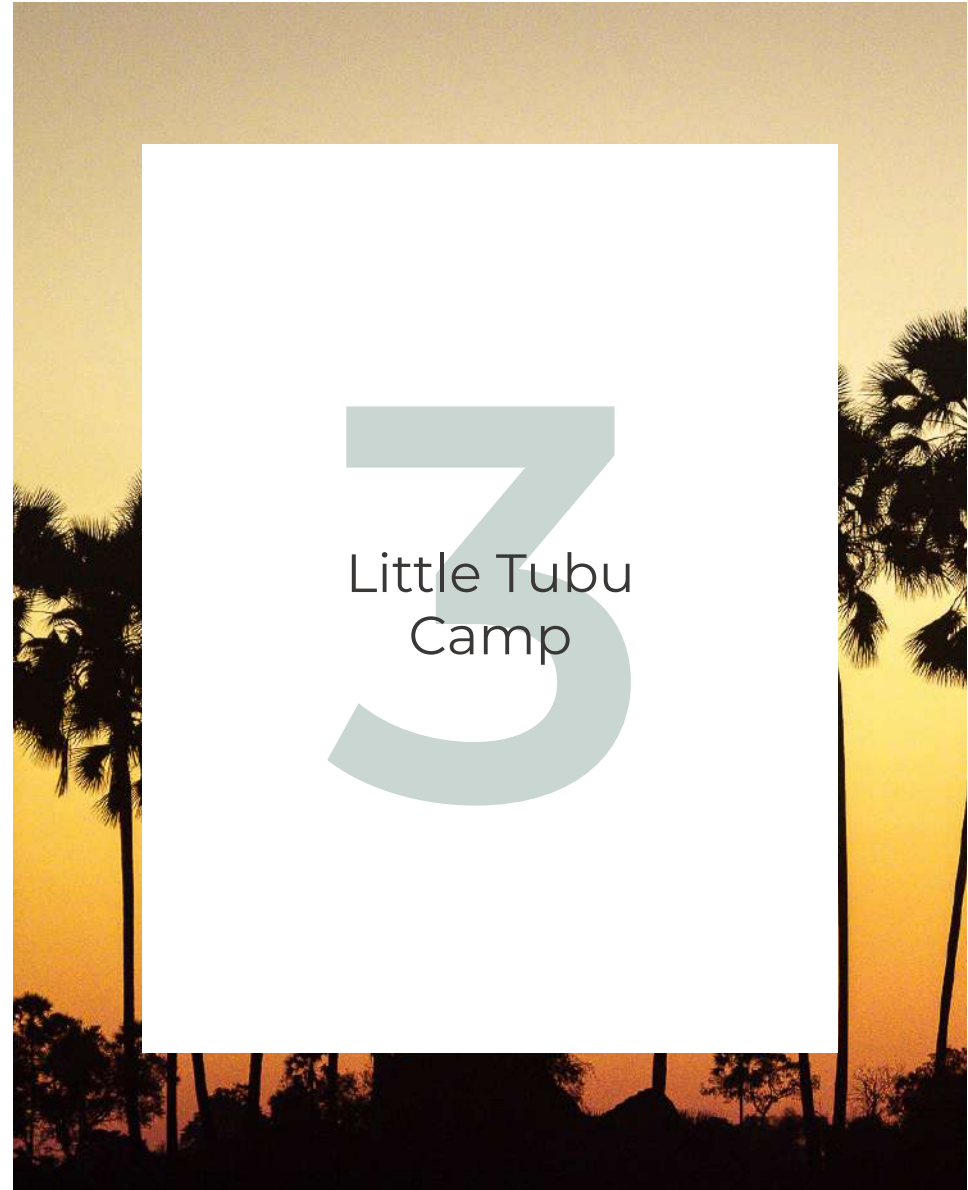
Remarkable game viewing

Thanks to its prime location and access to diverse habitats, Tubu Tree has access to remarkable game viewing. Guests can embark on day and night game drives in open 4x4 vehicles, exploring the productive mopane and acacia woodlands. During the winter season (May to late September), when flood levels allow it, water-based activities such as boating, seasonal fishing, and mokoro excursions offer a unique way to experience the Delta's tranquil waterways.





MORE THAN WORDS



Every moment in this wilderness is an unforgettable experience

As night falls, venture out in search of elusive nocturnal creatures such as owls, genets, and bush babies. By day, take a guided bush walk to discover the intricate world of smaller fauna and flora, gaining a deeper appreciation for the Okavango's rich biodiversity.

Alongside its larger sister camp, Tubu Tree, Little Tubu is nestled on Hunda Island in the Jao Reserve. Elevated within the treetops and overlooking a seasonal riverbed, this intimate retreat accommodates just six guests, ensuring an exclusive and immersive safari experience.

Unwind on the private viewing deck of your modern tented suite - one of only three - soak in the beauty of the Delta from your outdoor shower, or stroll along the raised walkways to the main area, taking in sweeping views of the floodplains. This is classic Okavango at its finest.



As the
largest
dry land
environment
in NG25,





Hunda
Island
boasts a
diverse
range of
habitats



Rebuilt in June 2024

Rebuilt in June 2024, Little Tubu is nestled on Hunda Island, near its sister camp, Tubu Tree. As the largest dry land environment in the Jao Reserve, Hunda Island boasts a diverse range of habitats, providing a rich and varied game-viewing experience.

The camp features three modern tented suites, each with en-suite bathroom facilities and private decks designed to capture stunning views of the surrounding landscape. Elevated dining, bar, lounge, and pool decks sit beneath a lush canopy of trees, overlooking a seasonal riverbed that attracts a steady flow of wildlife.

Guests can embark on thrilling day and night game drives in open 4x4 vehicles, exploring the productive mopane and acacia woodlands. During the winter season (May to late September), when flood levels allow it, water-based activities such as boating, seasonal fishing, and mokoro excursions offer a unique perspective of the Delta's tranquil waterways.

LITTLE TUBU





4

Kwetsani
Camp



KWETSANI

Indulge in effortless luxury and sustainable elegance in one of the Okavango's most remote camps, facing the sunrise and overlooking vast open floodplains. As the sun sets in the evening in a breathtaking display of colour, gather around the campfire and watch as the southern sky unveils its endless constellation of stars.

Nestled on a palm-fringed island in the stunning Jao Reserve

Intimate and exclusive, Kwetsani Camp rebuilt in June 2026, offers the ultimate Okavango experience, with inspiring wildlife encounters. Nestled on a palm-fringed island in the stunning Jao Reserve, its five elevated treehouse-style tents are tucked among mangosteen and fig trees, offering sweeping views of the floodplains - an invitation to adventure and discovery.





One of the most secluded camps in the Okavango!

Kwetsani, one of the most secluded camps in the Okavango, is set on a long, narrow island shaded by palms, mangosteen, and fig trees. The camp features five beautifully furnished “treehouse” tents and a family room, each offering an en-suite bathroom and outdoor shower. These elevated and spacious tents are connected by wooden walkways, blending seamlessly into the surrounding wilderness.

Blending seamlessly into the surrounding wilderness.

The main area, shaded under a cool thatched roof, includes a large dining and lounge space that opens onto a sprawling wooden deck with magnificent views of the floodplain, often dotted with plains game. A walkway leads to the swimming pool, where loungers provide the perfect midday retreat. Guests can unwind while watching wildlife from the comfort of the pool or their private suites or family room.





Unwind while watching wildlife

Kwetsani offers a mix of land and water-based activities, depending on the seasonal flood levels. Explore the Delta's winding waterways by mokoro or embark on thrilling game drives. When water levels are high, boat transfers take guests to neighbouring Hunda Island for exceptional game-viewing experiences.



Jacana Camp



JACANA



Glide through the winding channels in a mokoro, spotting painted reed frogs, delicate water lilies, and perhaps even a surprise “Sundowner stop” hidden among the reeds. When water levels permit, venture further east by boat, exploring the Delta’s breathtaking landscapes.

Bird enthusiasts will be captivated by sightings of rare and remarkable species, including both the lesser and African jacana, Pel’s fishing owl, slaty egret, African pygmy goose, and many more. As night falls, gather around the campfire and share stories beneath a sky brimming with stars.

Nestled on an island in the Jao Reserve, Jacana Camp offers an immersive aquatic Okavango experience. Surrounded by seasonally flooded plains and papyrus swamps, this intimate retreat is best explored by water, while year-round game drives are available via nearby game drive stations to nearby large islands.



Surrounded
by seasonally
flooded
plains and
papyrus
swamps



The main area is constructed from metal arches holding large arched tented roofs nestled between two towering sycamore fig trees and surrounded by lush wild date palms. The elevated dining area and inviting lounge have stunning views of the surrounding floodplains which are covered in water during the flood season. Below, a cozy lounge leads onto a large viewing deck with a firepit, perfect for unwinding under the stars. An intimate bar connects the two levels, while a swimming pool at the front of camp offers a refreshing escape with panoramic views of the Jacana floodplain.



Relax on the elevated deck of one of just five en-suite tented rooms, soaking in the serenity of this water-dominated paradise before setting off on your next thrilling adventure.

Tucked away on a small island in the scenic Jao Flats, Jacana Camp offers an exclusive retreat in the heart of the Okavango Delta. This secluded camp features five spacious en-suite tents, each with an outdoor shower and raised wooden decks that provide breathtaking views over the water.

As a predominantly water-based camp, Jacana offers a range of aquatic adventures, including boating, seasonal fishing, and mokoro safaris. For those seeking land-based exploration, year-round game drives provide opportunities to discover the diverse wildlife of this remarkable region.





Discover
the diverse
wildlife
of this
remarkable
region





Pelo
Camp



Take a guided walk across a sandy island, uncovering its fascinating geological formation and learning about the early inhabitants who once thrived here. As the day winds down, share stories with staff in the boma or savour sundowners from the raised lookout deck, watching the Delta glow in the fading light.



Immerse yourself in the rich birdlife of the Okavango, with chances to spot wattled cranes, slaty egrets, and even the resident Pel's fishing owls. Experience the Delta's breathtaking beauty from the water, where its true magic unfolds.



In Setswana, Pelo means "heart" - a fitting name for this intimate five-tent camp, set on a heart-shaped island in the heart of the Jao Reserve. Surrounded by a lush tapestry of crystal-clear channels, Pelo Camp embodies the essence of the Okavango - a remote, pristine, water-filled wilderness at its finest.

Spend sun-drenched days gliding through serene waterways

Pelo Camp's low-impact, carbon-neutral activities provide an immersive and unobtrusive way to experience the Delta's wildlife, fostering a genuine and harmonious connection with nature.

Pelo Camp, nestled deep within the Jao Reserve bordering the Moremi Game Reserve, captures the true essence of the Okavango Delta. This pristine wetland paradise is a mosaic of shimmering lagoons, crystal-clear channels, expansive floodplains, and palm-dotted islands, offering an unparalleled wilderness experience.





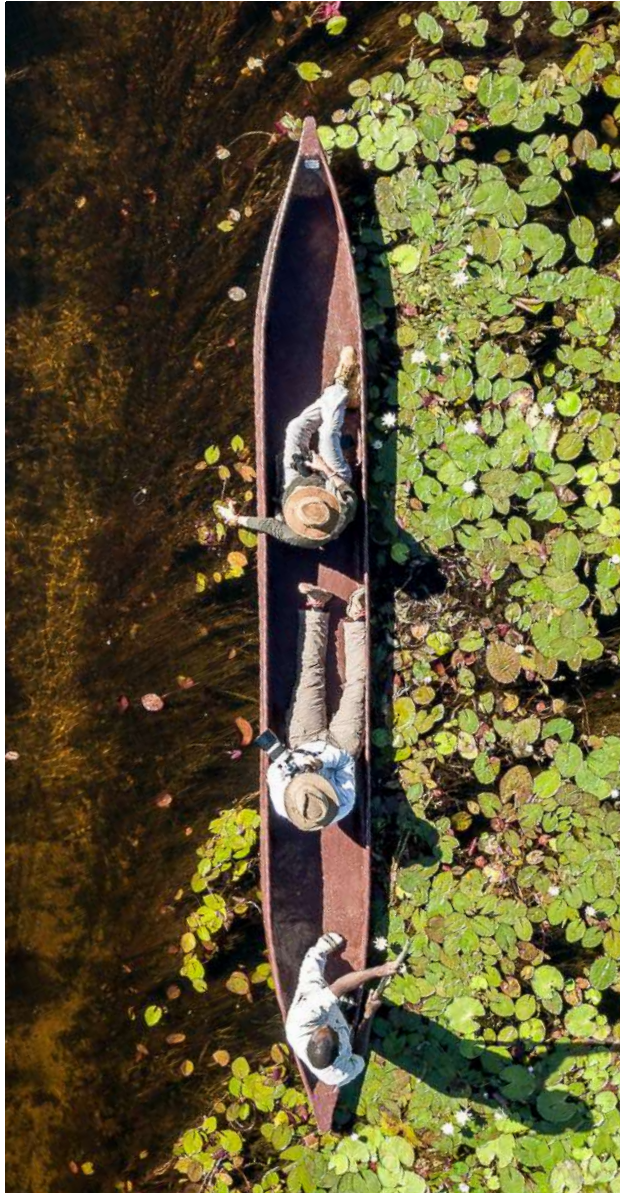
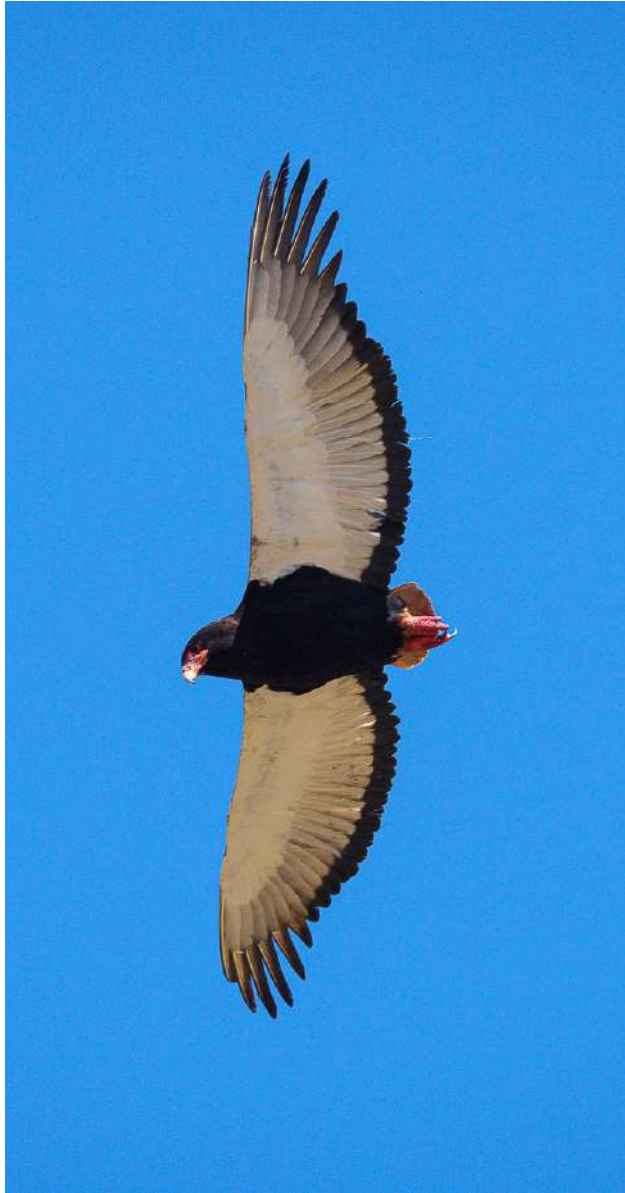
Discover the intricate world of smaller fauna and flora

The camp's five elegantly rustic canvas tents provide comfort and seclusion, each featuring an en-suite bathroom, an outdoor shower and a private covered veranda with Delta views. Guests can unwind in the sheltered outdoor boma, take in the sweeping vistas from the raised lookout deck, or relax by the pool, all offering front-row seats to this mesmerizing water wonderland.

Pelo Camp is a true Okavango Delta gem. In the wet season spend sun-drenched days gliding through serene waterways by boat or mokoro, encountering resident wildlife such as hippos, crocodiles, tiny reed frogs, and elephants - and if luck is on your side, the elusive aquatic sitatunga.



During the dry season, explore the landscape on game drives, where large herds of floodplain wildlife roam freely. The Delta's birdlife is equally spectacular, with flashes of colour from malachite kingfishers, the majestic presence of saddle-billed storks, and the rare sighting of a Pel's fishing owl, making every moment in this wilderness an unforgettable experience.





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