



"I go to nature to be soothed and healed, and to have my senses put in order."
John Burroughs

INTRODUCTION:

Welcome to our very first Footsteps in Africa Newsletter. The major emphasis with Footsteps in Africa, is supporting YOU the trade. We plan to make things easy and simple, with one email we can offer you; the Makgadikgadi, Central Kalahari and Okavango Delta. By offering our products at fair worth we think you will find us excellent value for money indeed. By offering you, expert knowledge and above all a passion for what we do. For most guests a visit to Southern Africa is a very special time indeed, as they not only want to experience Africa; the wildlife and the people but most importantly they also go to nature to be soothed and healed, and to have their senses put in order.



INDABA

If you are attending Indaba 2007 we would like to take this opportunity to meet with you and update you on Botswana's newest circuit of lodges and some very interesting new products. We will be in the tented area between the DEC and ICC on stand 548 A (the Natureways stand). For an appointment mail anthony@footsteps-in-africa.com.

At Indaba 2007 we will be launching the following:

- *Our New circuit of Botswana Lodges*
- *Mobile Safaris into the Central Kalahari Game Reserve*
- *Our Okavango Mokoro Trail, which is a camping safari into the Okavango Delta*
- *Unique tracking safaris with San at Deception Valley Lodge*
- *Special emphasis on family safaris*
- *2008 Green (December – March) Special Rates*
- *2008 Rates*

The obvious benefit of a circuit is that it presents numerous packaging possibilities.... Should you need any assistance in composing such packages just contact us. The other obvious

benefit is having the ability to quickly check availability and make a booking through our central reservations.

The lodges and tourism products we currently represent, including reservations, sales and marketing are:

*Deception Valley Lodge (Central Kalahari)
Makgadikgadi Camp – Makgadikgadi
Delta Camp (Okavango Delta)
Oddballs Camp (Okavango Delta)
Haina Safari Lodge (Central Kalahari)
Mapula Lodge (Okavango Delta)
Ngwezi Houseboat (Pan-Handel Okavango Delta)
Delta Air (Maun based charter company)*

This is a new circuit of lodges in Botswana!

RATES to all lodges

*Rack and STO rates are available to all lodges, please e-mail: **Error! Contact not defined.** at anthony@footsteps-in-africa.com.*

If you require descriptions of the properties just let us know and we would be happy to send them to you.

CENTRAL RESERVATIONS

In addition to offering the all the above properties in a single rate manual we also offer central reservations to all the properties.

For all bookings and enquiries:

For reservations : res@footsteps-in-africa.com

Enquiries and Information: info@footsteps-in-africa.com

Telephone International = +27 823556910 or

Telephone Local = 082 3556910

Skype: fiaanthony

NEWS FROM OUR LODGES:

WELCOME

Footsteps in Africa, is pleased to welcome Haina Safari Lodge and Mapula Lodge to it's circuit of Botswana Lodges. The circuit now comprises six lodges and a charter company.

DECEPTION VALLEY LODGE



Deception Valley Lodge reservations has been successfully integrated into the Footsteps in Africa reservation system and all agreements will be honoured. Further Footsteps in Africa will also honour bookings where quotes were calculated with Islands in Africa multiple night rate stays.

A new curio shop is nearing completion at Deception Valley Lodge, where guests can buy locally manufactured curios and art works. We are also extending the deck in front of the main complex enhancing the sense of space and expanding the view of the waterhole in front of the lounge. This waterhole attracts a huge variety of wildlife including lions.

Indaba 2007 will see the launch of a unique walking safari guided by our talented resident San trackers at Deception Valley Lodge.

HAINA SAFARI LODGE



Deception Valley Lodge welcomes their neighbour; Haina Safari Lodge to our circuit. The addition of Haina Safari Lodge adds a new dimension to our Central Kalahari stable. Firstly the accommodation at the lodge is tented. We have two types of tents; the standard tents consist of a bedroom and en-suite bathroom with shower and toilet whilst the luxury tents have thatch roofs, large decks and full bathrooms (shower and bath). We will initially only have two standard tents and two luxury tents from Haina Safari Lodge on our Central Reservations. Should you wish you may still make your reservations directly with Haina Safari Lodge.

Haina Safari lodge will be offering select mobile safaris into the Central Kalahari Game Reserve. These popular safaris offer convenience being based from a concession adjacent to the Game Reserve so the long trek from Maun is made easier by flying into the local airstrip on the concession.

DELTA CAMP AND ODDBALLS CAMP

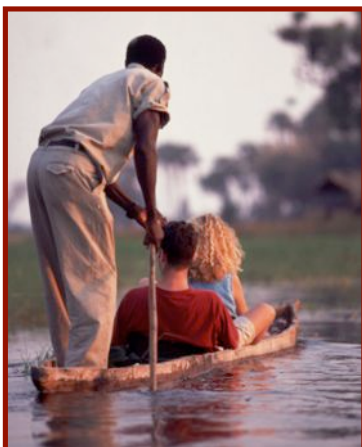


These camps are renowned and are among the oldest camps in the Delta:

- *We accept children of all ages, all year round;*
- *We specialise in mekoro (dug-out) safaris and walking – NO motorised activities;*
- *We use only traditional mekoro – no fibreglass replicas;*
- *Our clients are NEVER grouped*

with other clients on activities, and their guide is theirs and theirs alone for the duration of their stay.

- *A cultural experience. There are a maximum of two guests per guide, and because guests are walking with their guide rather than sitting behind him in a vehicle, it is both possible and necessary for guests to interact with their guide on a much more personal level than is usually the case. It is also possible for guests to visit Sedibana village, where many of our guides originate and have their homes and families.*



DELTA CAMP

Up-market; individually designed and decorated chalets; fine food and wines, very personal service. Excellent location, guiding and game-viewing. We will initially only have two chalets of Delta Camp on our Central Reservations. Should you so wish you can still make your reservations directly with Lodges of Botswana

ODDBALLS CAMP

The 'cheap and cheerful' alternative. Same guides, same game, great position, but shared ablutions and accommodation in 2.4m x 2.4m dome tents set on elevated wooden decks. A relaxed camp with a great reputation, wholesome but un-fancy food, and the opportunity to go out on camping safaris by mekoro with your guide. We will initially only have two tents of Oddball Camp on our Central Reservations. Should you so wish you can still make your reservations directly with Lodges of Botswana

MAKGADIKGADI CAMP

The Makgadikgadi Pans is a remnant of a vast and ancient "Super Lake" today... the Makgadikgadi has a lunar like landscape but in the summer months (December to March) it is transformed into great sheets of water, which attract a spectacular array of water birds and trigger dramatic migrations of wildebeest and zebra, this is one of Southern Africa's last true migrations.



Makgadikgadi Camp, is located on the edge Hyena Island, with views of the salt pans and the camp is located adjacent to Makgadikgadi National Park, a perfect base to explore this unique and changing land.

Makgadikgadi Camp has been built using local craftsmen and their

knowledge. Makgadikgadi camp is an creative and relaxing environment, combining Western comforts with the flair and colour of Africa. Accommodation is in comfortable tents accommodating a maximum of 10 guests thus ensuring personalized service and attention to detail. The tents all have en suite alfresco bathrooms; with flush toilet and shower provide a home from home.

When the pans dry up the large migrations leave, but the true desert animals remain, take a night drive to spot the elusive nocturnal desert species. During the day go out into the pans, either by vehicle or by bike to visit archaeological sites of stone age tools or just to see infinity and the curve of the earth.

In both seasons night drives are a fascinating opportunity to see shy nocturnal desert species, whilst during the day one can visit historical sites such as Chapman's and Greens Baobab. Whatever the season you will find plenty to do, in this vast and magical region.

At this junction we would like to thank Ralph and Catherine of Uncharted Africa for allowing us to use the Jacks Camp airstrip while the Gweta strip is temporarily closed.

NGWESI HOUSE BOAT



The “Ngwesi River Boat”, named after the feisty Tiger fish found in abundance in the Okavango Delta. The House Boat, is moored in Shakawe at Drotsky’s Cabins from where it operates. The “Ngwesi” Luxury River Boat, consists of a upper and lower deck, and is staffed by a licensed Skipper and trained staff. The “Ngwesi” comes with it’s own “tender” boats, which are used to explore the various waterways of the Delta.

Activities; The setting of Okavango River Boats is classically African, relaxed and informal while drifting under the African sky. Enjoy activities on the house boats that include: Fishing, birding, exploring, game viewing or simply relaxing.



MAPULA LODGE

Mapula Lodge has recently undergone major refurbishment and acquisition of new vehicles now enabling us to offer private game drives. Mapula Lodge is situated in the north eastern area of the Okavango Delta, in the private concession areas. This is a private area thus being able to offer a full spectrum of activities not allowed in the Parks.



The main complex with its broad decks overlooks the permanent lagoon where the resident pod of hippopotamus resides. Here you will find the comfortable lounge, dining area and a bar area with one of the best views in the Okavango Delta. A small library and swimming pool completes the main area.

Each of the 10 luxury chalets has a traditional African design with the use of natural logs to provide an authentic African feel. The detail and use of local craftsmanship in the construction of the rooms is intensely impressive and eye-catching. The rooms all boast a small lounge and a full bathroom (with bathtub and outside shower).



Mapula Lodge, being in a permanent water area, can offer year round water activities, especially important during January - May when water levels in the Okavango can become too low in most area's to allow the use of the traditional mekoro. Walking safaris with experienced guides, night drives in search of nocturnal animals , most of the interesting mammals are only active at night. In the early morning and late afternoons game drives are conducted in comfortable safari vehicles.



Thank you, we will have our second newsletter with more news in about three months time.

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